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League to meet over evictees next month

CAIRO (R) — The Arab League will hold a crisis meeting of foreign ministers in Cairo Jan. 11 to discuss Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians. Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid said Tuesday he had sent invitations to the 20 foreign ministers and the Palestinian delegation "to discuss the Arab position towards Israel's deportation of Palestinians." He said the meeting was requested by the Palestinian delegation. The foreign ministers of Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and a Palestinian delegate held talks in Cairo on Thursday and asked the United Nations to set a deadline for the evictees to return home.

Jews protest against dig at cemetery

TEL AVIV (AP) — Some 15,000 religious Jews rallied at a busy junction Monday, some of them stoning cars and policemen in protest against a road expansion scheme where ancient tombs have been uncovered. The ultra-religious Haredi community regards cemeteries as sacred and has repeatedly sought to disrupt the works. The cemetery, located at French hill in northeast Jerusalem when archaeologists discovered 16 ossuaries, repositories of bones, from the second temple period between the 4th century B.C. and 70 A.D. The law requires archaeologists to examine construction sites to ensure valuable relics are protected. Last month Haredim staged three days of violent protests demanding the reburial of the ossuaries. The government antiquities authority relented, while stressing that any other finds would remain state property. However, now that the dig is to continue to allow the road to be paved, the protests have resumed. As the demonstration dispersed, protesters blocked the junction and threw stones, police said. They said three officers were slightly injured and three demonstrators were arrested.

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Israel expects 40,000 CIS Jews

TEL AVIV (R) — The Jewish Agency, which recruits immigrants for Israel, predicted on Tuesday about 100,000 Jews will arrive from the republics of the former Soviet Union next year, although the number, although about the level reached in 1990, will be a substantial increase from the 63,128 recorded so far this year. Jewish immigration from all sources totalled more than 25,000 in 1992.

Iranian diplomats involved in killings

TEHRAN (AP) — Two Iranian diplomats were involved in the deaths of four Kurdish opposition figures in Berlin, Stern magazine says in a report. The report, which was published in the magazine's Bonn edition, says German officials rejected comment on the report until the investigation was still ongoing, though the federal prosecutor's office announced Tuesday a charge against one of the Iranian men under arrest on the Sept. 17 killings. Stern magazine issued a summary of a report in this week's issue saying the German government had kept secret the links to Iranian diplomats to avoid damaging economic relations with Iran, an important export market. Stern said Germany had with the Iranian embassy in Bonn for the quiet withdrawal of the two accredited diplomats, whose names were not disclosed. No sources for the report were identified.

Gra Leone says it led coup

TOWN (R) — Sierra Leone's military government said Tuesday it had foiled a coup attempt by disgruntled soldiers. The government said seven people were killed in the plot, which was foiled during the night of Tuesday. The government announced several arrests, including those of two army officers, Lieutenant Colonel Kaurita Dumbuya and Captain Alpha Jalloh. It said the coup attempt was led by a 27-year-old president, General Valentine Strasser. He was arrested in his home by army officers in last week's successful coup, overthrowing Joseph Momoh and installing a national provisional government.

U.S. urged to aid Sudanese

US (R) — A human rights group has asked France Tuesday to provide 200,000 Djibouti civilians deprived of food and medical supplies by a government army of rebel-held areas. The group said the situation in the Red Sea state, which has a 4,500-strong military, is a humanitarian aid to the people. The group said a blockade of areas controlled by the army for the Restoration of United Democracy (FRUD) in the north and southwest of Djibouti was preventing the government from preparing a fresh offensive.

Ugo sworn in as president

ASILIA (R) — Itamar Franco was sworn in Tuesday as Brazil's president after Fernando Collor resigned over charges that led to his impeachment (see page 8). Franco had been acting president since October when Mr. Collor was impeached on corruption charges. To a roar of approval from congressmen, senators and judges, Mr. Franco took the oath of office before a joint session of congress.

Parliament resets in two constituencies

RIOT (R) — Kuwait's constitutional court ruled Tuesday that two members of parliament must stand for election a year after losing their seats after election violations. The court said the two candidates said military police personnel, barred from voting by the constitution, had participated in the election of Al Khreij and Al Moud

APU seeks Security Council deadline for evictees' return home

Israel should be punished for expulsions, Regent tells Arab Parliamentary Union

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) Tuesday called on the United Nations Security Council to set a deadline for Israel to allow the return of 415 Palestinians it expelled to South Lebanon 12 days ago. An 11-page statement issued at the end of a one-day emergency meeting in Amman, the APU described the expulsion as a "clear infringement of the United Nations Charter and the Fourth Geneva Convention, which bans the eviction of people under occupation from occupied territories regardless of the reason." The statement said U.N. Security Council Resolution 799, which demands that Israel allow the return of the evictees to their homes in the occupied territories, was "an international condemnation of the expulsion decision." The APU called on the Security Council "to work out the necessary mechanism for the return of the expelled to their homes in implementation of Resolution 799."

Beirut rejects Israeli proposal; Jonah fails to visit expellees

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon refused to discuss Israel's proposal Tuesday that both countries allow supplies to reach 415 Palestinians expelled to a freezing area in South Lebanon. Official sources said President Elias Hrawi told U.N. envoy James Jonah Lebanon was firm that he could not pass through Lebanese lines to visit the expelled Palestinians trapped for a 12th day. "We will not discuss any subject concerning the (expelled) through Lebanese territory," they quoted Mr. Hrawi as telling Mr. Jonah in a sharp rebuff of Israel's bid to defuse the crisis. The Beirut government rejected a proposal by the International Red Cross for a one-time mission that would allow a medical team to reach the evictees from Israeli-controlled territory and a supply convoy to cross simultaneously into the camp from Lebanon. Mr. Jonah headed back to Israel after unsuccessful talks with Lebanese officials on ways to ease the plight of the Palesti-

nians refutes Israel's contention that it is seeking peace and implementing General Assembly and Security Council resolution," said the statement. "The safety of the evictees is the responsibility of the Israeli occupation authorities," it added, referring to the plight of the 415 who are stranded in South Lebanon between Israel and Lebanese army lines. It supported the Lebanese refusal to allow in the Palestinians, saying that the territory that they were in was "beyond the authority of the Lebanese government." "Lebanon's refusal to accept the Palestinians is designed to foil the Israeli attempt to expel the Palestinians," it said. The APU, which groups 15 Arab parliaments — three of them did not attend Tuesday's meeting — called for Arab solidarity and unity in efforts to ensure that the evictees return home. It urged the United Nations secretary-general to ask his envoy to stay in the occupied territories until the evictees are allowed to return home under his supervision.

The parliamentary union also called on Arab and Islamic countries to take all possible measures to return the evictees to their homeland and not to accept any compromise over the issue. It also urged the Security Council to ensure the safety and security of the Palestinians living under occupation by placing the occupied territories under international protection. It condemned Israel's arbitrary practices not only against the Palestinians but also the people living in South Lebanon and the Golan Heights. It called on Arab and Islamic governments to provide financial support for the Palestinian intifada, "a legitimate struggle against military occupation." The APU communique urged all Palestinian factions to "leave their differences aside and unite their ranks to continue the struggle." It also paid tribute to "the extraordinary steadfastness" of the expelled Palestinians, "who are writing a new page of sacrifice and firm resolve."

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headquarters in South Lebanon's border town of Naqoura for meeting with Erik Walgren, commander of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon. From Naqoura, he left by road to occupied Jerusalem. Information Minister Michel Samaha said Lebanon would ask the U.N. Security Council to vote on a detailed mechanism to make Israel take back the Palestinians if it continues to defy an earlier council resolution calling for their immediate return. A new snowstorm at night rocked the tent camp between the Lebanese army's forward-most checkpoint of Marj Al Zohour and the Zummara gateway of the Israeli-occupied "security zone" in southeast Lebanon. In the morning, the Palestinians were busy, washing pots and pans from Monday's fast-breaking dinner of meat soup with boiled potatoes. They fasted to save food after their supplies diminished to small amounts smuggled on donkeys across

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Independents, Brotherhood move towards political front compromise

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A reconciliation spirit prevailed between the Muslim Brotherhood movement and independent Islamists who form the Islamic Action Front (IAF), increasing chances for reaching a compromise before the deadline set for the elections of the IAF's executive committee on Jan. 8. Disarray hit the IAF Sunday with the resignation of 17 independents after the results of the IAF's first elections on Friday for a 120-member consultative assembly failed to produce a balanced figure of independents and Brotherhood members. The resigning members accused the Brotherhood of trying to take the reins of the political decisions of the front while publicly maintaining an image of a coalition of Islamist forces. Independents said that they had an "agreement of honour" with the Brotherhood to leave the majority or a leadership. But, he added, that both the movement and independents had no conflict over the principles which brought the IAF to the fore. Another resigned independent Islamist, Dr. Theib Abdullah, withdrew his resignation and called on all his colleagues to follow suit. He said that all misunderstanding had to be resolved with-

in the ranks of the front so as not to affect the work of the "dream" embodied in the establishment of a party that can rally all Islamist trends. His comments came in a letter published by Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday. Dr. Ishaq Farhan, another prominent IAF leader, who initially was quoted as harshly criticizing the independents for contacting the press with their resignation before it was presented to the IAF, seemed to have taken a quieter and more conciliatory tone Tuesday. In published statements Tuesday, Dr. Farhan was quoted as saying that he and prominent Brotherhood figures contacted some independents and had agreed to continue cooperating and coordinating their efforts in the service of Islam. Brotherhood members and independents interviewed by the Jordan Times Tuesday agreed that a reconciliation was being worked on and that if there was any wrongdoing on either side it would be rectified. Sources on both sides agreed that one proposal which could be worked out was to ensure that such a problem does not recur would be rewriting the IAF's

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ARRESTS CONTINUE: An Israeli soldier Tuesday stands guard over a Palestinian arrested in Arab East Jerusalem (AFP photo)

Israeli leaders may manoeuvre for face-saving formula to end crisis

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In the face of the international outcry over its expulsion of over 400 Palestinians to South Lebanon, Palestinian officials and observers are optimistic that Israel will be under tremendous pressure to seek a face-saving formula to end the crisis and ensure the continuation of the year-old Arab-Israeli peace talks. Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials have warned that Palestinian negotiators would boycott the next round in Washington if the evictees were not allowed to return to their homes in the occupied territories. However, these officials say, any suspension of Palestinian participation in the 14-month talks does not mean that they are quitting the peace process. "I think the Israelis understand that we would not be able to continue the negotiations as long as the problem of the expelled Palestinians is not solved," a Palestinian delegate to the peace talks told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

That is why I believe Israel would somehow find a face-saving formula to end the crisis," Yasser Abed Rabbo, head of the PLO's Information Department and a member of the Executive Committee, accused Israel of "assassinating the peace process." In a statement from Tunis telefaxed to the Jordan Times Tuesday, Mr. Abed Rabbo made it clear the resumption of the peace talks depend on the return home of the expelled Palestinians, now stranded in South Lebanon between Israel and Lebanese army lines. The expelled Palestinians, described by Israel as activists of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and Islamic Jihad, both of which oppose the peace talks, have vowed to stay put in South Lebanon until Israel allows their return. While Palestinian observers analysts say that Israel would definitely pursue a compromise to end the stand-off over the Dec. 17 expulsions, they do not expect a decision to allow the entire group of 415 to return to the

occupied territories since such a move would seriously threaten the survival of the uneasy coalition in power in the Jewish state. They believe, however, that the public admission by Israeli officials that a number of the Palestinians were expelled by mistake and the offer by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of military tribunals to hear appeals from the evictees are indications the Jewish state could be leaving the door open to allow the return of a large number of the group now stuck in South Lebanon. The Israeli premier as well as his foreign minister, Shimon Peres, had told U.N. special envoy James Jonah earlier this week that there could be no reversal of the expulsions but the evictees could appeal their cases in military tribunals. Despite the public Israeli position, Palestinian analysts close to the peace talks believe that the door is still open for the Rabin government to reach a compromise. They point out that the expul-

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Arafat wants new U.N. action

TUNIS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Tuesday turned down an invitation for Palestinian negotiators to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and said the U.N. Security Council should take new measures to secure the return home of 415 expelled Palestinians. Mr. Arafat said he would press U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali in Geneva Wednesday for new action by the Security Council after the failure of a U.N. mission to persuade Israel to take the evictees back. He declined an offer by Mr. Rabin to meet the Palestinian negotiating team in occupied Jerusalem to discuss the resumption of Middle East peace talks. "A meeting in the occupied territories? We don't negotiate with Israel there. But there are meetings between Palestinians and Israelis, particularly with the Labour Party members, (government coalition) Meretz members and moderates," Mr. Arafat told Reuters. Mr. Arafat said it was up to the Security Council to resolve the evictees issue after Israel's refusal to obey its resolution. "The issue is now the responsibility of the Security Council... especially the United States. We want to know how it behaves with Israel after Rabin's meeting with the U.N. envoy in which he ignored the U.N. resolution," Mr. Arafat said. At a meeting on Sunday, Mr. Rabin rejected a request by U.N. Under-Secretary General James Jonah — Dr. Ghali's special envoy — to obey Security Council Resolution 799 demanding the immediate return of the Palestinians stranded in South Lebanon. Apparently angry, Mr. Arafat said: "We want to know whether international legitimacy has a standard serving the interests of Israel and another punishing the Arabs." But he stopped short of demanding the use of force to make Israel comply with the Security Council's order. Asked if he would press Dr.

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Iraq said continuing flights into 'no-fly' zone

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi warplanes made more "incursions" into the "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq Monday, but fled when U.S. fighters intercepted them, a U.S. military spokesman said Tuesday. It was not clear if Iraq was seeking to provoke a new confrontation with the United States in the run-up to President-elect Bill Clinton's Jan. 20 inauguration. But the Pentagon ordered the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, with its 70 combat jets, to head for the Gulf Monday after U.S. fighters shot down an Iraqi MiG-25 over southern Iraq Sunday. "Yesterday the Iraqi air force did conduct additional sorties across the 32 line (Parallel)," said U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Howard Carter, public affairs officer for the Operation

Southern Watch that is enforcing the "no-fly" zone. He said allied planes were told to intercept them but the Iraqi jets left the zone without any shots being fired. The decision not to fire was an operational decision, said Col. Carter, unwilling to reveal the reasoning. "They were given a heading (direction) to intercept," he said of the allied planes, noting only that the Iraqis retreated back north. "There weren't any shots fired." Col. Carter said there had been more than one incursion across the 32nd Parallel Monday but he would not say exactly how many. Nor would he reveal what country or countries the allied planes were from. The United States leads the coalition, supported by France and Britain. "Aircraft intercepts have been

conducted by coalition aircraft, depending on who was closest," he said. Baghdad has said it does not recognise the "no-fly" zone and has vowed to avenge Sunday's downing of one of its MiG fighters "in the suitable manner and at the appropriate time." Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said Monday Iraq had no obligation under United Nations resolutions to recognise the "no-fly" zone in the south. "Iraq does not recognise the ban imposed on its flights," he said in a statement handed to reporters. U.S. President George Bush has surmised that in sending planes into the "no-fly" zone on Sunday Iraq was trying to test his will as he neared the end of his term. He said the downing of the plane sent a clear message to

Iraqi president Saddam Hussein. U.S. diplomatic posts abroad are taking precautions against Iraq's threat to strike back for the downing of the aircraft, the State Department said. "We have noted Iraqi public statements about retaliation for the 'shoot-down and we take all such threats seriously," said department spokeswoman Phyllis Young. "U.S. overseas posts are taking appropriate precautions." In Amman, Ghanem Aziz Khadouri, deputy chairman of Iraq's National Assembly, told the AP: "Iraq reserves the right to respond to this American aggression at the right time and in a suitable manner." He did not elaborate. Arab diplomats say the Iraqi

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Somalia forces tighten grip ahead of Bush visit

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — U.S. military forces prepared for President George Bush's visit amid mounting efforts Tuesday to root out the lawless in Mogadishu and reports of a clan massacre by one of the country's top warlords. Mr. Bush was scheduled to arrive in this capital city Thursday, New York's Eve, to meet with U.S. Marines and visit a nearby International Red Cross hospital and feeding centre. The military command said the president would spend New Year's Day at two key towns — Baidoa and Beledogele — which American troops wrested from the grip of warlords who had looted international food and medical aid to starving villagers. "We are very concerned about the president's security when he visits here," said Marine Colonel Fred Peck. "I doubt if any American president has ever visited a nation in such turmoil and in such a state of anarchy...."

"Mogadishu is still a dangerous town. It's not a safe place to visit. U.S. Air Force planes dropped 100,000 leaflets on Mogadishu warning residents that machineguns, mortars, recoilless rifles and "technical" battlewagons with or without their guns mounted would not be tolerated on the streets. "Anyone aiming or pointing weapons directly at CTF (Combined Task Force) forces will be shot," the leaflet said. Col. Peck said U.S. troops seized a large cache of arms and missiles in northeast Mogadishu and a smaller arsenal from a six-storey building opposite the U.S. embassy compound, which Mr. Bush will visit Thursday. Col. Peck said Marines took over the building. Tuesday's seizures included the confiscation of five vehicles U.S. troops said counted as "technicals" because they had gun

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Federal parliament votes no-confidence in Panic

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Moderate Yugoslav Premier Milan Panic was ousted from office Tuesday in a parliamentary vote led by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic's former communists and their nationalist allies. Parliament's upper house passed a vote of no-confidence in the Serb-born American by 30-5, with one abstention. The lower house passed the no-confidence motion earlier in the day by 95-2 with 12 abstentions. It was the third attempt to oust Mr. Panic, who returned to Yugoslavia in July hoping to end Mr. Milosevic's grip on power. But he was soundly defeated in Dec. 20 elections, in which he, challenged Mr. Milosevic for the Serbian presidency. After Mr. Panic's defeat in the balloting, which he condemned as rigged, his position looked increasingly untenable. He reportedly had been contemplating resigning.

Mr. Panic, appointed federal premier by parliament in July, had pledged to end war in neighbouring Bosnia-Herzegovina and thus get international sanctions against Yugoslavia lifted. Mr. Milosevic's socialists, the renamed communists, and the allied Serbian radical party voted together in the lower house to oust Mr. Panic. The votes were introduced by the ultra-nationalist Radical Party, whose leader Vojislav Seselj Monday said he would try to remove Mr. Panic from office. During the election campaign Mr. Seselj, whose party is widely expected to go into coalition with Mr. Milosevic's socialists in the new parliament, frequently accused Mr. Panic of treason and said any Serb who voted for him was voting for betrayal. In Sarajevo, citizens braced for an expected Muslim offensive. United Nations forces reported that 10,000 Muslim troops had

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Army deployed in lawless south Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanese army was deployed for the first time in eight years Tuesday in Beirut's lawless southern slums, the birthplace of Shiite Muslim extremists who use car bombers and hostage-takers were groomed.

The pre-dawn move was part of Prime Minister Rafik Hariri's increasingly assertive drive to reestablish law and order in Lebanon after the anarchy of 15 years of civil war.

Nearly 2,000 troops rolled into the shantytowns at 4 a.m. (0200 GMT) and set up checkpoints on key intersections, main squares and Beirut's airport highway. No defiance was reported.

It was the first army deployment in the slums since regular troops were expelled by militias Feb. 6, 1984, which ignited another round of civil warfare with irregulars in the capital.

The Iranian-backed fundamentalist Hizbollah (Party of God) had then gradually built the predominantly Shiite-populated slums into its main power base.

Most of the American, British and French hostages taken by Hizbollah-affiliated groups since 1984 were held for years in the slums.

The Lebanese government, rendered helpless by the disintegration of the army during the 1975-1990 civil conflict, was unable to move in to free them.

It was inside the slums that the massive truck bombs were prepared for suicide bombings who blew up the U.S. embassy, the U.S. Marine base and the French paratroop headquarters in a multinational peacekeeping force in 1983.

More than 300 Americans and Frenchmen were killed in these attacks that were claimed by the

shadowy Islamic Jihad organisation, an underground offshoot of Hizbollah.

However, the party shifted from its hardline stance to a more pragmatic line after the 1989 death of Iranian patriarch Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the accession of President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Hizbollah's current leader, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, welcomed the army's takeover of security functions in the slums.

"We have lately been supplying authorities with information about the locations of drug traffickers, currency counterfeit and prostitution nests," Sheikh Nasrallah said in a statement released shortly before the army's push. "We are happy the state is finally exerting its authority."

There was no report of any house raids mounted after the troops entered the slums. Token Syrian army units marched behind the Lebanese soldiers to demonstrate support.

Tuesday's move came four days after thousands of troops carried out raids across the country in a crackdown on outlaws, car thieves and drug traffickers ordered by Mr. Hariri's government.

At least one bandit was shot dead and dozens of suspects were disarmed and arrested in the operations.

Mr. Hariri's government, formed Oct. 31, has been getting tough with corrupt officials, greedy merchants and tax dodgers in a bid to restore state authority and discipline in Lebanon.

He is backed by Syria, the main power broker of Lebanon with 40,000 troops in the country as peacekeepers, and by Saudi Arabia.

Afghan Council meets amid boycott and threat

KABUL (AP) — A national council met Tuesday to begin choosing the country's next president, but most of the rebel chiefs who fought to bring Islamic government to Afghanistan stayed away and threatened renewed civil war.

The 1,400-member Council for Resolution and Settlement gathered at the Interior Ministry to decide who will govern Afghanistan for the next 10 years.

The delegates represent Afghanistan's 29 provinces as well as religious scholars, respected tribal elders and prominent rebel commanders who fought for 14 years to end communist rule of their country.

Besides selecting the next government, the council will choose 20 per cent of its members to act as the national parliament.

It is uncertain when the actual vote will take place. Interim President Burhanuddin Rabbani, a 53-year-old Islamic scholar who took office in June, is considered the front-runner.

But at least five of the main nine rebel parties that formed the coalition Islamic government in late April say they would not accept Mr. Rabbani for another term and dismiss the assembly as fraudulent.

Renegade rebel leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, expelled from the leadership for his relentless attacks that killed thousands in Kabul last summer, threatened war unless the council was called off.

"Those delegates who respect the peoples' mandate and do not want further bloodshed should boycott this council," Mr. Hekmatyar said in a statement from his Pakistan-based office, News Agency.

Mr. Hekmatyar's demand received unconditional support from a former enemy, Siyahatullah Mojaddidi, a moderate who



Burhanuddin Rabbani, interim president of Afghanistan, is seen in a photograph.

briefly served as caretaker president following the collapse of the former communist regime in late April.

Hezbollah-Wahadat, an eight-party coalition of Iranian-supported Shiite parties, also has vowed to start fighting if Mr. Rabbani is re-elected.

They and other rebel groups contend Mr. Rabbani's government tampered with the council's selection and paid tens of millions of Afghanis to buy delegate votes.

But Mr. Rabbani denied the allegations and told the delegates: "I have every confidence in you."

Disagreements over the council and demands that Mr. Rabbani step down prompted sporadic clashes between pro-government forces and other rebel factions that have killed more than 50 and wounded scores in recent weeks.

The fighting also has included mutinous troops once part of the former communist army and militias that switched sides to help topple the regime of deposed President Najibullah in April.

Rashid Dostan, is now at odds with Mr. Rabbani's government for its refusal to recognise a political party he formed last spring.

Israeli Arab and rightist legislators stage shouting match

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli Arab legislator was the centre of a shouting match in parliament Monday that the house speaker called "one of the darkest moments in parliament history."

When Tawfik Ziyad of the communist Hadash party went up on the podium to address state child benefits, Rehavam Zeevi of the right-wing Moledet Party called out "Stalin, Arafat, terrorist."

Israeli Radio said. Uzi Landau of the Likud shouted out that he was sorry the parliament could not receive Mr. Ziyad in masks like the Palestinians he met with in the Gaza Strip, Israel Television said.

Mr. Landau was referring to a trip that Israeli Arab lawmakers made to Gaza to protest the

expulsion of 415 Palestinians. Mr. Ziyad shot back at his hecklers: "Lunatic," "you disturbed interrupter" and finally "you, the crazy right ... you have a history of killing and murder."

Insults such as "You are drugged," and "Your mother is drugged" flew back and forth, the radio and television said.

The Arab legislator then refused repeated appeals by deputy Speaker Esther Salomovitz to step down, insisting he be allowed to speak.

After parliament guards failed to gently prod Mr. Ziyad from the podium, a short recess was called in which "Mr. Ziyad was convinced to sit down, said parliament spokesman Yair Amikam.

Mr. Amikam added that Speaker Shevach Weiss called the session "one of the darkest moments in parliament history."

Israel Television said Mr. Weiss and other parliament officers asked the house committee to address Mr. Ziyad's outburst. The committee can suspend Mr. Ziyad from five plenary sessions as punishment.

It was the second round of name-calling between Mr. Zeevi and Mr. Ziyad in two months as the right-wing opposition escalates attempts to delegitimise Israeli Arab support of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's ruling coalition.

The raucous session also came amid sharp criticism of Israeli

Arab Lawmaker Hashem Mahameed by legislators from both Mr. Rabin's Labour Party and the opposition Likud Party.

The attacks on Mr. Mahameed were prompted by remarks he made last week, saying the Palestinians would struggle against Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip "with all means."

Criticism say Mahameed was calling for an armed struggle but Mr. Mahameed insists his remarks were misunderstood.

Attorney General Yosef Harish has instructed police to investigate the possibility that Mr. Mahameed broke an anti-terrorism law by encouraging violence, justice ministry spokeswoman Ety Eshed said.

Moves for Islamic front comprise

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internal laws to allow for a percentage of appointments on the front's consultative assembly and executive committee.

One Brotherhood source, who insisted on anonymity, revealed that Dr. Farhan had made this suggestion to independents on the eve of their resignation. At the time, the source said, the proposal was rejected.

But on Tuesday, an independent Islamist who is also a member of the front, said that the independents would probably accept such a compromise and would return to the front's ranks.

The proposal, as explained by sources, would mean that a percentage of the 120 consultative council 17-seat executive

would be reserved for who are selected by people who win in open elections and they by-laws are written to incorporate percentages of independents Brotherhood through appointment.

Most of those interviewed said that an agreement compromise would set before Jan. 8 when set to elect the consultative committee, a president of the front deputies.

Israel may seek face-saving solution

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tion order stated a maximum exile period of two years but did not set a minimum and said that this is a point where Israel could "save face" and allow the evictees without the threat of any major political repercussions for the coalition.

Other Palestinian observers, however, were not so optimistic that Israel would comply with Security Council Resolution 799, which calls on the Jewish state to return the evictees since it never complied with resolutions related to Palestinians, nor applied the Fourth Geneva Convention.

"The only way Israel would consider returning the evictees is by imposing another resolution that would force it to comply with international law, like imposing sanctions," a Palestinian analyst said.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday said that Israel should be punished for the expulsions.

Addressing an emergency meeting of the Arab Parliamentary Union, Prince Hassan described the expulsions as a "flagrant violation of international law, and Israel's repeated disregard of U.N. resolutions makes it imperative for the world com-

munity to force Israel to abide by these resolutions."

Some observers say the Palestinians leaders as the negotiators, credibility among the people if they decide the negotiating table stranded evictees do not have.

Those who expect is a "face-saving" form believe that Washington pressure on the Israeli way out of it.

"The American aid has said that it upped Palestinian position in able to continue the negotiations if the evictees not solved," said the gate who preferred it.

The delegate said that George Bush in the Palestinians during in Washington at the eighth round of talks this month that "He everything he could that the evictees return homes."

"The evictees' order but Rabin has plenty find a solution to them before the next round due to resume," said a official.

Ship 'loaded with Scud parts' inspected

AUGUSTA, Sicily (AP) — Experts on Tuesday were examining cargo from a Syrian-bound ship which arrived here a week ago with suspected Scud missile parts aboard, authorities said. A port official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the cargo had been unloaded for experts who will report their findings to investigating magistrates in Syracuse who are looking into suspicions that the ship held parts that could modify a Scud to double the missile's range from 300 to some 600 kilometres. The ultimate destination of the suspected missile modification parts was not known. Last week, the Milan newspaper Il Giornale reported that the ship's manifest had indicated that the parts were for the civilian and not military use. The Waalhaven, a merchant ship bearing the Estonian flag and rented by a Dutch company, docked in Augusta on Dec. 21. The port is north of Syracuse, in eastern Sicily. Noting that the ship began its voyage from Hamburg, Germany, Il Giornale reported that a German secret service investigation had led to the blocking of the ship.

Bush to stop in S. Arabia on Friday

BAHRAIN (AP) — President George Bush will stop over in Saudi Arabia Friday for a meeting with King Fahd, Gulf-based U.S. diplomats said Tuesday. They said Mr. Bush will spend "a few hours" in the Saudi Red Sea port city of Jeddah after spending New Year's Eve with U.S. forces in Somalia. Since its inception in the early 1990s, Saudi Arabia has been the staunchest friend and ally of the United States in the Arab World. Mr. Bush and King Fahd fostered this and crowned it with the U.S.-led multinational operation that evicted Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Inspired by Saudi Arabia's pro-U.S. tendencies, the Saudi-led Gulf Cooperation Council in its recent summit conference paid high tribute to Mr. Bush for his "honourable and heroic" support for the Arab countries of the region.

Iran reports 10-tonne drug busts

NICOSIA (AP) — Law enforcement agents have seized some 10 tonnes narcotics in Iran's southeastern Sistan-Baluchistan province over the past year, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Monday. The agency said 575 drug smugglers, 61 armed bandits and 211 pieces of various weaponry have been captured in the province, which borders Pakistan and Afghanistan. The drugs seized included heroin, morphine and opium, IRNA said. Such large busts are common in Iran, which smugglers use as a transit route for Europe-bound drugs coming from Pakistan and Afghanistan. In an effort to check smuggling and drug abuse, Iran has introduced the mandatory death sentence for anyone caught in the possession of even small quantities of drugs. Hundreds of people have been executed on drug-related charges since 1989.

Jackson told Syria issuing visas to Jews

NEW YORK (R) — Syria's ambassador to Washington has assured U.S. civil rights leader Jesse Jackson there has been no change in Syria's policy of granting travel visas to its tiny Jewish population, a Jewish group said on Monday. The World Jewish Congress (WJC) said Syria's Ambassador Walid Al Houalein wrote Mr. Jackson last week saying there had been no change in the policy after Mr. Jackson visited him at the WJC's request. Several Jewish groups had expressed concern Syria had stopped allowing Jews out of the country since none had been able to leave for about the past 10 weeks. About 2,600 of the country's 4,000 Jews have left since Syria began issuing travel visas earlier this year and about 1,000 are said to be planning to leave.

Italy uncovers Somali passport scheme

ROME (R) — Three men were arrested Monday for selling stolen Somali passports to immigrants who believed the documents would help them obtain Italian citizenship, police said. The ring was headed by Egyptian Mohammed Shaban Al Bendary who police said sold Somali passports for about \$1,000, mainly to other Egyptians. They believed Italy was more likely to grant citizenship to residents of its former colony, Somalia. Police said they seized several blank Somali passports probably stolen from offices in Mogadishu in looting during the civil war. Two Sudanese men were also arrested and charged with helping Bendary.

Iran: Rushdie is 'puppet' in Western hands

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's official news agency said Monday Western nations were backing British author Salman Rushdie to taint Iran's image, and warned that such a policy would lead to grave consequences. The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the European Community was using Mr. Rushdie as a

"puppet" to fuel anti-Iranian propaganda. The agency reiterated that the death sentence against Mr. Rushdie was irrevocable. IRNA's commentary in English said Mr. Rushdie's "visits to European countries are at the order and coordination of the European Community and within the framework of anti-Iranian propaganda." It said that "the Rushdie circus plans in Europe and in North America are designed by British intelligence (intelligence) agencies, because he considers his life over the past 1,400 days like a prisoner sentenced to death as being intolerable." It said: "Playing with the beliefs of the world's billion-plus Muslims for short-term economic and political interests will have grave aftermath for these nations." It warned that relations with Paris would suffer if Mr. Rushdie were allowed to visit France to plead his case. Mr. Rushdie has said he would like to travel to France, which is among Iran's top trade partners, "as soon as possible."

Former Shah bodyguard kidnapped

ISTANBUL (AP) — An Iranian who reportedly once served as a bodyguard for the Shah was abducted near his house in an Istanbul suburb, the semi-official Anatolia news agency said Monday. Anatolia quoted Zehra Gholizade as saying that she and her husband, former Iranian army Captain Abbas Gholizade, were returning home from shopping Saturday night when five bearded men approached and forced Capt. Gholizade into a minibus, which sped away. She said the men spoke in Farsi and threatened to kill the couple, according to Anatolia. Mrs. Gholizade said her husband had been a bodyguard of the Shah of Iran, who was toppled in 1979 by the Islamic revolution, Anatolia reported. She said her family had moved to Turkey 10 years ago. "We were threatened several times and each time we moved our home," the news quoted her as saying. Capt. Gholizade worked for a Paris-based Iranian human rights group, she added.

Egyptian policeman kills extremist

CAIRO (AP) — A policeman in southern Egypt shot to death a Muslim extremist suspected of involvement in several terrorist attacks in recent months, the top law enforcement officer said Tuesday. Mohammad Abdul Halim Musa, the interior minister, told reporters the shooting occurred Monday at a village near Dairut, a centre of Muslim extremist activity about 60 kilometres north of the provincial capital Assiut. The dead man, identified as Nasser Himdan, was the 80th fatality this year in violence involving extremists who want to overthrow the secular government and replace it with an Islamic theocracy. The violence included 11 attacks on foreign tourists in which one Briton died and five Germans, two Britons and three Russians were wounded. Mr. Musa said Himdan opened fire on a policeman at Kalanish village but missed. The policeman returned fire, killing him instantly, he added. He said Himdan was wanted in connection with attacks on a police station, a tourist cruise boat on the Nile and a bus carrying Egyptian Christians.

Israeli orchestra votes not to play Wagner

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israel Philharmonic orchestra will not play works by German composer Richard Wagner, widely criticised here for anti-Semitism, a press release said Tuesday. The orchestra came under heavy public pressure last December for planning a concert of Wagner works. As a compromise, the orchestra played Wagner in an open rehearsal, then polled its 30,000 subscribers on their feelings about a formal concert. After the poll revealed that 30 per cent of the subscribers opposed any performance of Wagner's work, the orchestra's management decided to ban the German composer from its repertoire, the statement said. Wagner, who died in 1883, was Hitler's favourite composer. Apart from the open rehearsal, the philharmonic, Israel's premier orchestra, has not performed Wagner since 1938.

Iran urges Azeris to end war with Armenia

NICOSIA (R) — Iran urged Azerbaijan Tuesday to find a negotiated settlement to its undeclared war with Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave. President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told visiting Azeri Vice-President Panah Huseynov that Iran was worried about the conflict between its two neighbours. "Facilities which should be used for development of both countries are being used in a war which is in neither side's interest," Tehran Radio quoted him as saying. "We hope that Azeri and Armenian officials will soon end the Karabakh clashes through negotiations and in a peaceful way." At least 2,500 people have died in nearly five years of fighting between the two former Soviet republics over Nagorno-Karabakh, a mainly Armenian-populated enclave inside Azerbaijan which has been administered by Baku since 1923. Mr. Rafsanjani made a similar peace call to Armenia's Vice-President Gagik Artunyan who visited Tehran last week.

Iraq continuing 'no-fly' zone flig

(Continued from page 1)

air force, decimated in last year's Gulf war, is not capable of engaging allied air power in a significant measure.

The Iraqis are believed to have around 150 operational aircraft, less than one-quarter of the pre-war strength of 700.

Since the "no-fly" was imposed, the allies have flown more than 10,000 missions without challenge, U.S. military officials said.

Diplomats in the Gulf said, however, there have been some overflights by Iraqi jets in recent months, with the intruders quick-

ly turning tail when the allied fighters appeared.

Whether these reports were accidental is not clear. But the events of September could point to a deliberate policy of ta-

lances. Iraq said the Arab at Gulf were "trebleing prospect of Mr. Bush office."

The newspaper B Saudi Arabia and of Gulf countries that b U.S.-led allied milita-

out Iraq from Kuwait as Bush neared the d departure to the dust

Parliament votes out Pani

(Continued from page 1)

massed on a strategic hill overlooking the city.

Mik Magnusson, spokesman for the U.N. Protection Force (Unprofor) in Sarajevo, said the build-up on Mount Igman, south-west of the city, had been taking place for several months. U.N. spokesmen said Monday they thought the Muslims might be preparing to try to break the Serb siege of the city.

There are approximately 10,000 men there, 6,000 of whom are well-armed and 4,000 in support roles, Mr. Magnusson told a news briefing.

Sarajevo remained without running water or electricity in sub-zero temperatures, but U.N. spokesman Peter Kessler said aid agencies would begin trucking wood for fuel into the city over the next few days. He said he

hoped some of it could be ordinary citizens as bakeries and hospitals.

Bosnian peace talks up for the year in Geneva turning from the last Yugoslav President.

Cosic said the threat intervention in Bosnia very real.

"Prospects for intervention in Herzegovina are real, the prospects for the former Yugoslav representative internationalise."

The United Nations NATO have been whether to intervene stop the war and enforce a "no-fly" zone.

Talks resumed on leaders of the three warring sides sitting down together time.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Tel: 773111-19	
PRAYER TIMES	
05:00	Fajr
06:30	(Sunrise) Duha
11:30	Dhuhr
14:22	'Asr
16:45	Maghreb
18:37	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Switcheh, Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	
Church of the Assumption Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terrisians Church Tel. 623666	
Church of the Immaculation Tel. 623541	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 628543	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Church Tel. 771331	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Assyrian International Church Tel. 683336	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932	
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
Another rise in temperatures is expected and some clouds will appear at various altitudes. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.	
Amman Min/Max. temp. 01/11	
Aqaba 10/19	
Deserts 07/13	
Jordan Valley 07/18	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 8, Aqaba 17 Humidity readings:	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Jamil Marage	76149
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim	385880
Dr. Bahjat Bader	349342
Dr. Hisham Kanaan	790286
Firas pharmacy	661912
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Nairooth pharmacy	626762
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shumaima pharmacy	637660
Nairooth pharmacy	626762
Najib pharmacy	947632
AMMAN:	
Dr. Radwan Al Saud	273877
Al Ouda pharmacy	(-)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Rajah Saqer	901290
Khaliliah pharmacy	985147
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	02, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	943022
Traffic Police	996390
Public Security Department	63021
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	697467
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	62301
Repairs	62301
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	08-53200
Amman	08-53200
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/332
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	642816
Al-Bashir Maternity, J. Amn	642412
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Matbas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmiesani	6641714
Shmiesani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Munshar Hospital	6672779
The Islamic, Abdali	6661275

Royal decree honours educationists

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday granting honorary medals to 10 educationists in recognition of their achievement in the field of education in Jordan.

The decree, the following people received awards: Abdul Latif Arabiyat, Minister of the Lower House of Parliament and former ministry secretary general, and Mahmoud Al Samra, Minister of Culture and former director of the University of Jordan.

Also named were: Muhammad Hamdan, former Minister of Education and Higher Education, and Abdullah Akaileh, former Minister of Education.

Also named were: Hani Hadi Abu Taleb, former general of the Arab Legion, and Ali Mahafzah, Yarmouk University president and member of the national team who worked out the curricula for social studies at the basic and secondary school stages.

Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Kazem, former director of the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organisation of the UNESCO regional office in Amman.

The late Dr. Hamed Al Khawad, former acting director of the UNESCO regional office in Amman.

Also Tuesday a Royal Decree was issued approving the council of minister's appointment of Fawaz Abu Tayeh as ambassador plenipotentiary of Jordan to Bulgaria. A third decree approved as an ambassador at the foreign ministry, as a member of the international judiciary committee until the end of 1996. Mr. Khawaneh will also serve as Jordan's representative at the U.N. human rights committee.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday visits construction sites in the north (Petra photo)

Regent calls for faster work on road construction

JERASH, AJLOUN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday visited the Ajloun and Jerash areas north of Amman and urged the authorities in charge of constructing the new Amman-Jerash highway to speed up work on the project.

Work on the highway, which was due to be completed last year, has been delayed due to landslides on parts of the road during the past winter season. Prince Hassan called for the creation of major companies that can carry out large projects including highways.

The Regent met with local merchants, workers and tradesmen in Jerash to enquire about their working conditions. He also met with a delegation representing the official and private sectors to discuss services to the Jerash region and he urged them to work towards promoting local councils in matters related to social services.

In Ajloun, the Regent met with representatives of the private and public sectors to discuss the implementation of agricultural roads. He urged local societies and private organisations and the local community in general to shoulder responsibility with the public sector and the government in the course of implementing local schemes.

Addressing the audience, the Regent noted that the deputies form the legislative authority in Jordan helping the government and therefore the deputies should tackle their local constituencies' needs and problems. Local notables presented to Prince Hassan a number of requests which included the construction of agricultural roads to enable them to carry their produce to the cities.

Deputy Premier and Minister of Education Thougan Hindawi, who accompanied the Regent on the trip, said that a number of agricultural issues are being considered by the government.

British grant put to work on irrigation projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four member British team of experts is working closely with the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) to drill artesian wells in the southern regions of Jordan in order to obtain water for irrigation projects, according to a newsletter issued by the British Embassy in Amman.

The experts represent two British firms entrusted with conducting studies on the Qaa Disi aquifer in the south within the framework of a British technical aid programme to Jordan. Britain last March, signed a loan agreement of 10 million sterling into a grant of which 3.46 million has already been spent.

The newspaper said that more than 2.3 million sterling from this grant will be allocated to provide drilling and other equipment to the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) in connection with the three-year study project of the Qaa Disi aquifer.

Upon signing the transfer of the loan into a grant, the two sides agreed that the grant should mainly benefit the priority sectors of water and education in the Kingdom.

According to the newsletter, the four British experts and the NRA team are currently drilling 1300-metre-deep wells in the process of studying the aquifers.

The NRA has employed its drilling equipment, normally used in the exploration of oil and gas, in the water search operation in the south, the letter noted.

Apart from the Jordanian, owned equipment, the British firms have brought in their own equipment, special pipes and other materials used in testing. The newsletter quoted experts as saying that the search for water resources between Maan, Mudawara and Disi would take one and a half years during which a total of 15,300 wells will have to be drilled. Britain originally agreed to give the loan to Jordan in 1987.



Work in progress: Maintenance of water pipes is essential to Jordan water network

West Bank lawyer denounces deportation

By Odeh Odeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Chairman of the Arab Lawyers Committee in the occupied West Bank, Ali Ghuzlan Tuesday said Israel was planning to evict the 415 Palestinians, now exiled in South Lebanon, secretly without any public announcement was it not for the local and international media people.

In an interview with the daily Al Ra'i, Mr. Ghuzlan, who is in Amman, said that he learnt about the deportation through an Arab journalist who informed him of extraordinary movement of buses to transport the Palestinians north. The journalist told him that Israel was planning to deport 380 Palestinians. He added that he made a contact with Palestinian lawyers and human rights group to bloc the eviction process as well as ensuring the passing of a court order to prevent the eviction of those Palestinians. Despite all the efforts, the eviction of the Palestinians took place.

Mr. Ghuzlan described the eviction as an extremist and unprecedented step on the part of the Israeli government. It was preceded by the detention of some 2,100 Palestinians without any justification. He said that the massive eviction of the Palestinian people is a crime of war and punishable under international law.

Mr. Ghuzlan stressed that the lawyers committee in the occupied West Bank had issued a statement on 18 Dec. 1990 warning against the deportation policy, and saying that if accepted it could be a precedent for massive transfers.

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Jordan Times Tel: 667171

Development and Employment Fund aims to double number of projects supported in 1993

By Salam Al Shawa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Operating with JD 13 million funds in the coming year 1993, the Development and Employment Fund (DEF) plans to increase the number of projects it supports to 2,500 up from 940 in 1992.

Up to 6,000 citizens will find jobs after the implementation of these small-size income-generating projects in the coming year, said DEF Director General Abdul Ilah Abu Ayash.

Between March and December 1992 the DEF financed 790 schemes by private individuals at the total cost of JD 4 million creating 1,927 jobs, said Dr. Abu Ayash in reference to the 1992 operations.

The rest of the projects carried out with DEF financing during 1992 were initiated or carried out by societies or local community groups at a total cost of JD 710,000 creating 289 jobs, he said.

Dr. Abu Ayash said that priority in the soft loans which carry 6.5 per cent interest go to college graduates whose numbers are increasing due to the unemployment problem in the country.

Unemployment is now running at 17 per cent of the total number of the Jordanian workforce according to the Ministry of Labour and the DEF projects are aimed at reducing this rate as much as possible, said Dr. Abu Ayash.

Last month, the government raised the DEF fund's by JD 6 million to JD 13 million in order to widen the margin of beneficiaries among needy families and help deal with poverty in the Kingdom. Nearly 67 per cent of the loans in 1992 went to college graduates who started their own businesses, noted Dr. Abu Ayash. He said the DEF and the vocational training corporation are closely cooperating in order to find jobs for the unemployed

whose number as registered with the civil service commission now stands at 80,000.

"Our job is not simply to grant loans to beneficiaries who should submit acceptable collaterals to pay their dues in time, but it also entails following up on the progress of the projects to determine the extent of their success or failure," he said.

Our operations are under strict control and we discovered a small number of fraud cases accounting to seven per cent of the total number of loans already granted," he added.

Special attention is given to the southern and badia regions and the DEF aims at striking a balance between industrial handicraft and agricultural projects being implemented with its funds, he said. Nearly 50 per cent of the loans so far given, have gone towards agricultural projects creating 662 jobs.

Dr. Abu Ayash said he was relatively satisfied with the DEF

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Abdul Ilah Abu Ayash

operations as more than 80 per cent of the debtors were paying back their dues regularly and more people are benefiting from the DEF services. He said in 1993 DEF plans to pursue efforts towards financing projects that employ the largest number of workers and reduce the number of unemployed people in Jordan.

Bataineh praises work of Noor Al Hussein Foundation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Aref Bataineh Tuesday praised the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) Quality of Life Project (QOLP) saying it contributes to meeting development needs of rural population, and the least privileged people.

He stressed the importance of this project, saying it enhances the concept of integrated development, and encourages self-reliance.

Addressing the closing session of a three day workshop for technical support committee members working for the foundation's QOLP in the northern and middle parts of the Kingdom, Dr. Bataineh said the project contributes to improving quality of life by encouraging and assisting citizens to set up income generating projects and improving social, economic and cultural services.

NHF Director General Inaam Al Mufti spoke about a new health programme, adopted by the foundation, with the aim of improving health conditions of individuals in local communities.

Participants in the workshop discussed several working papers on rural development and community based projects and the role of the Development and Employment Fund, which was presented by the Fund's Director General Abdul Ilah Abu Ayash.

They also discussed a working paper on small projects and the role of the National Aid Fund (NAF), presented by Faruq



Self-sufficiency skills play an important role in the quality of life project

Badran, director general of the fund. Taking part in the workshop which opened on Sunday, Dec. 27 were 44 trainees on social services.

In her opening speech, Mrs. Mufti pointed out the development philosophy of Noor Al Hussein Foundation, which draws on a comprehensive and integrated approach to socio-economic change. This approach, the NHT President said, would serve to meet the needs of individual

families and to contribute to the overall development of the community. She added that this approach also seeks to reinforce the concept of self-reliance among rural people through their grass-roots participation in the planning, implementation, supervision and evaluation of the development projects in their communities.

Director of the QOLP Issam Zawawi also remarked that the project seeks to enhance the stan-

dards of living in rural communities in Jordan through helping local inhabitants initiate and manage income-generating schemes that would eventually help improve the socio-economic conditions of their families and their communities at large. He added that those schemes are being implemented with advisory support and supervision from the Project's Technical Committees operating in the nine villages served by the Project.

Jordanians learn Hebrew for the future

By Rana Sabbagh
Reuter

AMMAN — A growing number of Jordanians are studying Hebrew, partly preparing for a day when they make peace with Israel and partly because "knowing all about your enemy is half of a victory over him."

Jordan is technically still at a state of war with Israel, and the study of Hebrew was traditionally limited to some security officers, archaeologists and linguistics students. Now it is creeping into the ranks of middle-class Jordanians.

"The peace process has definitely people made more concerned with learning Hebrew because they are hoping peace will come soon," said Ghazi Al Saadi who opened Jordan's only private Hebrew school in May. Those who are our enemies now might become our friends with whom we will have to co-exist," said Mr. Saadi, a former Israeli Arab who was stripped of his passport and deported to Jordan in 1977 after spending nine years in jail for PLO-related activities.

Saadi's institute has 75 students: businessmen, lawyers, doctors and Palestinian researchers like Abdul-Jawad Saleh, the deported mayor of the West Bank town of Bireh, taking lessons three times a week.

The state-run University of Jordan in Amman also said there had been a surge of students enrolling for Hebrew courses it has been offering for years as part of an introduction to ancient languages. It gave no figures.

"As Arabs, we have always needed to know Hebrew," said Bader Khamis, the full-time Hebrew teacher at Saadi's Dar Al Jaleel (house of Gallies) institute which also publishes books and does research on Israel and the occupied territories.

"But the wars between us never gave us a chance to think of that," said Mr. Khamis, 45. He mastered Hebrew in Israel's huge Ashkelon prison, where he spent nine years for anti-Israeli activities before being deported to Jordan in 1985. "Knowing all about your enemy is half of a victory over him," he said. "But how can you get to know your enemy if you do not speak his

language to understand his religion, history and thinking?"

Hebrew and Arabic are Semitic languages and their grammar rules are very close. Teachers say unlike foreigners, Arabic speakers can learn Hebrew in less than a year. Many Israelis, born in Arab countries, need no lessons in the language of their neighbours. Others can choose to study it as a second foreign language to English in high school. Hebrew slang is chock full of Arabic expressions — and Arabic swear words. Hebrew, the language of the bible never is virtually devoid of juicy expletives.

Many moderate Jordanians who back the historic Arab-Israeli peace talks launched in Madrid 14 months ago believe in the need to learn Hebrew to prepare for future economic and political links with Israel with the context of an overall settlement.

"I am a businessman selling pharmaceuticals and when there is peace, I will want to go to the West Bank and other parts of Palestine for business and visit my family," said Samer Saleh. However, teachers say most of their students are attending Hebrew classes because they travel frequently to visit families in the occupied lands, where at least half of Jordan's population has roots.

Others have a professional interest in monitoring socio-economic and political changes in the Jewish state through Israeli literature, radio and television.

Mohammad Kharroub, a columnist for Arabic daily Al Ra'i, said he took up Hebrew to gain direct access to news on Israel instead of relying on the heavily-censored Arab media or the foreign press covering events with a Western eye. "Even if I am learning Hebrew, I am against any form of cultural normalisation with the Jewish state even if we are forced to do so by our regimes," added Mr. Kharroub, 42. His views reflect popular thinking among many leftists and Islamists who say an academic study of Hebrew does not clash with their belief that Israel had no right to exist as a state.

Many students said they are now frustrated that they cannot take more advanced Hebrew courses because classes offered in

Jordan have not gone beyond the starting level.

Despite headline stands, the peace process has breathed an air of openness into Jordan's musty political atmosphere. Television pictures of Arab and Israeli negotiators shaking hands and talking for the first time in the four-decade-old conflict have helped, though superficially, to begin easing deep-seated animosity.

Although Jordanian newspaper

ers are now running advertisements announcing dates of new Hebrew classes, journalists are still censored for speaking to the Israeli media.

Jordan has also been broadcasting news in Hebrew to Israel since 1973, the only Arab state to do so. "We want to get the Arab stand on issues like the peace talks to get across to anyone who speaks Hebrew," one official said.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

THE EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT DIVISION OF AN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS GROUP DEALING IN OIL & GAS AND IN GENERAL EQUIPMENT AND COMMODITY TRADING IS INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCAL & OVERSEAS POSITIONS:

- OIL FIELD COMPANY- GENERAL MANAGER
ELECTRICAL/MECHANICAL ENGINEER -BSC OR MSC
OIL FIELD EXPERIENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST - 10 TO 15 YEARS PLUS 5 YEARS IN COMPANY MANAGEMENT POSITION.
COMPUTER SKILLS AND HIGH COMMAND OF ENGLISH.
ATTRACTIVE PACKAGE ACCORDING TO QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE.
- SUBMERSIBLE PUMP ENGINEERS & TECHNICIANS FOR OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT WITH 3-5 YEARS MAINTENANCE EXPERIENCE IN OIL FIELD ENVIRONMENTS. WRITTEN AND VERBAL ENGLISH IS ESSENTIAL.
- OIL & GAS AND GENERAL TRADING COMPANY - GENERAL MANAGER.
- ANALYSTS & PROGRAMMERS
- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

INTERESTED CANDIDATES SHOULD SEND THEIR DETAILED CVS, RECENT PHOTO, PASSPORT PARTICULARS, MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE SALARY, PROOF OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO :

P.O.BOX 926647
AMMAN - JORDAN

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Telephone lines and overtime rates approved by cabinet

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Tuesday approved the increase telephone lines in Maan by 1,000 new lines, thus bringing to 30 lines the number of telephone lines serving the city. At a session chaired by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid, the cabinet also approved Jordan's participation in the meetings of the Council of Ministers of Youth and Sports, which will be held in Amman. The cabinet also endorsed a recommendation by the Service Commission, based on the request of the Information Department, to give a 30 per cent allowance to Jordan Radio and TV station staff who work overtime. The cabinet also authorised a 30 per cent allowance to workers in Siwaqa dam, in Maan, to the 30 per cent overtime allowance they are already getting. The cabinet decision said such allowance will cease as soon as work on the dam is completed. The cabinet also approved payment of staff working in the area of water drilling exploration.

Embassy expected to give speech on Palestinian Revolution Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Embassy of Palestine in Amman will hold a reception Thursday to mark the Palestinian Revolution Day. The celebration will be held under the patronage of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker who is expected to give a speech on the occasion, according to a report in the Arabic daily Al Ra'i. Also addressing the celebration will be head of the Palestinian Department at the Palestine Liberation Organisation Farouq Qaddoumi, who will arrive in Amman Wednesday. Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Abu Tayeh, Chairman of the Lower House's Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Palestinian ambassador to Jordan, Ali Tayeb, are also expected to address the occasion.

Food coupon system to be implemented

AMMAN — The Ministry of Supply will implement new measures to organise the distribution of subsidised food coupons from the beginning of 1993, according to a report in Al Dustour. The new measures, aimed at facilitating the process of obtaining these coupons, include the allocation of even days for families with an even number of members and odd days for families with odd numbers. For example, a family of five people will receive its coupons on Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday, while a family with ten people will receive its coupons on Saturday, Sunday or Wednesday. To ensure that coupons are directly used by the families concerned, the ministry stipulated that only one coupon of the family members will only be used to receive coupons on the allocated day. The ministry also decided to extend working hours in distribution centres until four o'clock instead of two to cope with the new system.

Catholic Patriarch condemns deportation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Roman Catholic Patriarch in the Middle East and North Africa Michael Al Sabbah said Israel's deportation of 415 Palestinians from their homeland was unjust and unacceptable. Patriarch Sabbah said evicting any person from his land can never be accepted by any country. In a statement to Arab Al Fajr newspaper which is published in Jerusalem, he said such measures cannot in any way be justified. Israel should accept its deportation decision as a good will gesture to its efforts in the Middle East peace process, he said.

Lebanese university president gives lecture on water in Mid East

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Lebanese University Mohammad Majdoub Tuesday underlined the importance of water resources in the Middle East region, especially in terms of the Israeli conflict. In a lecture delivered at Yarmouk University, Majdoub said Israel had realised the importance of water resources, and this was why it occupied Arab lands to use water resources.

Information minister receives Finnish official

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister Mahmoud Al Sharif met at the ministry Tuesday vice-president of the Arab-Finnish Friendship Society Antero Lohikoski. The meeting discussed the society's efforts in enhancing Arab-Finnish relations.

ST holds science conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Chemistry students at the Jordan University of Science and Technology's (JUST) biology department held Tuesday a scientific day which included an exhibition of the research. Prof. Sanaa Janakat who supervised the day of the day said the aim of the event was to train students competing in scientific conferences.

Meeting postponed until new year

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Arabiyat Tuesday postponed the House's meeting scheduled for Wednesday until next Sunday 3 January. The House will discuss the financial committee's report on the budget for 1993.

Iranian mosaics to be displayed in London

AMMAN (Petra) — An exhibition of Iranian mosaics will be held Tuesday at the auction hall of Sotheby's in London. The week-long exhibition includes 36 paintings and there will be a series of lectures. The exhibition is titled "Iranian Mosaics." "Roman and Byzantine mosaics in Jordan" and "Islamic mosaics." A special booklet on the mosaics in Jordan will be distributed to visitors of the exhibition.

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Economic Forum

Jordan's trade performance

By Dr. Abdalla

By all standards, the performance of Jordan's foreign trade sector during 1992 was, unfortunately, dismaying. Ignoring this performance or understating its serious implications serves no purpose now or later.

Imports of goods grew at 20 per cent against 5.8 per cent projected under the economic adjustment programme. Exports of goods were envisaged to expand at not less than 18 per cent; practically they rose by 15 per cent.

The outcome has been a trade deficit of \$1,703 million. We do not know much about the contents of the adjustment programme, in way of officially released data that allows an independent assessment of target fulfillment and an evaluation of the programme itself when it moves from blue print to real life. However, the intentionally leaked out data indicates that the trade deficit should not exceed 27.7 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). But it is not known which GDP is intended: at factor cost or at producers' prices.

At factor cost, GDP reached JD1,839 million, or around \$2,685 million. On this count, the 1992 trade deficit reached a shocking level of 63 per cent of GDP.

At producers' prices, GDP totalled around JD2,161 million, or \$3,155 million. On this count, the trade deficit still climbed to a

high plateau of 54 per cent.

In the economic theory, demand for imports is made a function of income; as income goes up, so do imports.

Jordan's gross domestic product is purported to have grown at the celebrated rate of 16 per cent so that it is only natural to see imports jumping at a corresponding clip. However, in the particular case of Jordan, at least two contributory factors have to be considered.

First, the demand for imports is also a function of the liberality of foreign trade. Under the adjustment programme, Jordan's foreign trade system was noticeably liberalised over the last two years and the impact of that has shown up. This liberalism and the related impact are here to stay.

Second, the return of Jordanians from the Gulf countries has added to the resident population of Jordan. Bigger population means higher demand for imports, a case which we believe has materialised during 1992.

Obviously, the explosion of imports poses an obstacle to all schemes of economic reform and not only to the current adjustment programme. This obstacle can take on the dimensions of a dilemma when Jordan, and for that matter any other country,

can not resort to quantitative and other direct measures imports. All IMF-sponsored economic adjustment programmes such measures.

Exports offer another way-out but demand for foreign products for that for imports, is a function of foreign policy circumstances which an exporting country can hardly control. It is certainly not in the short run. Import substitution is option but it must be ruled out because it can not succeed in the absence of formidable protection which is, again, with IMF programmes.

The chronic trade deficit has been at the heart of the defect of the Jordanian economy. One strategic remedy to this situation has been to emphasise the service sector as a development priority. No Jordanian official document has, alas, ever envisioned this path as a serious alternative. The inevitable alternative has, very understandably, been grants.

Jordan should look, with great concern, to the trade balance during 1993. If the 1992 trade performance continues, a trend will be established on these lines, which will require a reformulation of present economic policies.

Crawl before walk

IN ITS report on the draft budget for 1993, the Finance Committee of the Lower House of Parliament has recommended that the government substantially raise the salaries of public sector employees. The committee's call is justified and the reasoning behind it needs no further explanation. The purchasing power of government employees has drastically eroded over the last few years and a raise in their meagre salaries is a necessity without which they will not be able to cope with the increasing high cost of living.

By any economic standards, the quality of life for the majority of Jordanians has been on the decline; the dinar lost 50 per cent of its value during the economic crisis of 1988-1989; price hikes have haunted every citizen of limited income; and the lines of unemployment and the number of people living below the poverty level have grown to nightmarish levels. In the meantime, and except for a minor increase in the 1992 budget, the salaries of the public sector employees have remained unchanged and the once prosperous Jordanian middle class has been shrinking, unable to keep up with a market that edged many of its members into the alleys of poverty, economic hardships and, in many cases, despair. Over the last two years, the government has reported a recovering economy, a growing gross national product and healthier export figures and foreign currency reserves. But these figures mean nothing to the soldier, or policeman or civil servant who are unable to pay their rents and feed their children.

The economy may have improved well enough for the better off amongst us, but those whose lives depend on their monthly paychecks, the improving economy has not helped them one bit.

This is where there is an urgent need for government intervention, which could help people with small limited income. The government has expressed willingness to consider seriously the recommendation of the house's committee. Willingness and good intentions are far from enough, however. The increase in public sector salaries must therefore be granted and the hundreds of thousands of Jordanians who desperately need it must be helped to attain their basic needs. There will come a time soon afterwards when the productivity issue and the work of the bureaucracy as a whole should come up for discussion and debate. For now, it is a question of whether our public servants can crawl before they walk and eat before they talk.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily Tuesday attacked the United States and its Western allies for continuing their acts of aggression on Iraq, and for the downing of Iraqi planes flying over Iraqi territory. The paper quoted leaders of the United States, France and Britain as stressing the need to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions by all available means and forcing the hand of the United Nations in all matters. It said that while the Americans shoot down Iraqi planes flying over Iraqi territory, they watch Serbian planes raiding civilian positions in Bosnia, in defiance of U.N. resolutions, without doing anything to help the oppressed Bosnian population. The paper said that the United Nations passively watched Israel expelling innocent civilians and continuing its occupation of Arab land and aggression on its people. This double standard and double faced dealing on the part of the Western countries and the United Nations is disgusting and appalling, said the paper. The time has come for the United Nations to lift its sanctions on the Iraqi people as the Iraqi government continues to show the world that it is abiding by the requirements of the international legitimacy, said the paper. It said, on the other hand, that Israel and the Serbs, who continue their disregard of world community resolutions, should be subjected to sanctions and their actions should be condemned. The paper quoted French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas as saying that it is unacceptable to see men exposed to cold and hunger and evicted from their homes. It said that all people around the world, Christians or Muslims, follow up this human tragedy which ought to be stopped by all means.

NOTHING THAT the United Nations has so far failed to take any positive action to address the situation created by Israel's deportation of 400 Palestinians from their homes. Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily said that it is hoped that the Arab States, through their parliamentarians, will make a strong move towards dealing with this tragic situation. As it was expected, the U.N. envoy sent to discuss the deportees' question with Israel has failed to persuade the Israeli government to implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 799 and repatriate the Palestinians, said the paper. It said that the U.N. failure followed another failure on the part of the Arab foreign ministers who met recently in Cairo to discuss the situation; but it is hoped that the Arab parliamentarians will be successful where others have failed. The representatives of the Arab peoples, who are gathering in Amman Tuesday for an extraordinary meeting, are expected to speak out on behalf of the Arab masses at a time when their kinsmen are exposed to hunger and cold while the Rabin government is showing total disregard to the U.N. Security Council resolutions and the world community's will, added the daily.

Arab Americans in the Clinton transition

By Dr. James Zogby

For the first time Arab Americans find themselves active participants in the Clinton transition process. This past week Arab-American leaders have had nine separate meetings with the Clinton transition leaders to discuss hiring members from their community in the new administration.

All this has come about because Arab Americans played an active role in the 1992 presidential campaign. A steady stream of major political interest groups and constituent organisations have paraded in and out of the Clinton presidential transition offices in downtown Washington in the past three weeks. They go with position papers, hoping to influence future policy; or with stacks of resumes, hoping to secure important positions for their members and supporters.

This is how the transition process works. On one level its functions are threefold: to prepare for the incoming administration the detailed technical information it will need to fulfill the manifold responsibilities of government; to select the personnel who will staff this new Democratic administration; and to outline the policy options which the new administration can pursue in each of the many areas where government action will be called for over the first few months in office.

On a second level is an organised effort to provide access to Democrats representing each constituent and advocacy group in the country — to give them the opportunity to present their concerns and seek senior appointments to the new government. More than 100,000 resumes from Democrats across the country have been collected and fed into a computer database by the transition team, and thousands of Democrats representing the whole spectrum of the party have visited the transition offices.

From my personal vantage point, what is unique and important about this transition is that, for the first time, Arab Americans are a part of the process, having been recognised with respect by the Clinton presidential transition team. In just this past week Arab-American leaders have had nine separate meetings with transition leaders to discuss hiring Arab Americans for posts in the new administration, foreign and domestic policy, and to institutionalise the Arab-American relationship with the Democratic Party and the Clinton White House.

Of course, all of this has come about because Arab Americans played an active role in the Clinton-Gore campaign. It is a tradition in U.S. politics that "to the victor belong the spoils," meaning that the winning campaign gets to appoint its supporters to government jobs to help the new administration implement its policy goals. As a result of their participation in the campaign of the winning team, Arab Americans are receiving an opportunity to share in the success.

Becoming a part of the Clinton-Gore campaign was not easy. From the outset there have been genuine obstacles placed in the way of Arab Americans who wanted to play a role in Democratic campaigns. In 1972, for example, a group of Arab Americans sought to endorse the Democratic campaign of Sen. George McGovern, but a campaign staffer rejected and returned the endorsement. In 1980 President Jimmy Carter, while running for reelection, formed an Arab-American committee to support his can-

didacy but it lasted only three days before he disbanded it in the face of pressure from pro-Israel forces in the campaign. And in 1984 and 1988 only Jesse Jackson's campaign gave Arab Americans a chance to participate in an organised way in his campaign.

This year started off with a similar difficulty. Early overtures to the Bill Clinton campaign went unanswered. While individual Arab Americans played important roles in several states, Arab Americans, as an organised group, were denied full access. Later, after the primary process was completed, we were still trying, but without success, to arrange a meeting with the Clinton campaign officials.

The story of how we gained access appeared in the Dec. 13 Washington Post (and 380 other U.S. papers) in a syndicated column by the highly influential political columnist David Broder. Mr. Broder's story began:

"One of the more intriguing footnotes to the election came my way last week... The story came from Dr. James J. Zogby, the president of the Arab American Institute, that community's political arm in Washington. Zogby, who is a Democrat, had been having what he calls 'a very frustrating' time all year establishing contact with Bill Clinton's presidential campaign. Many

from that point on, we got a level of recognition for our group that we'd never gotten from the Democrats before. Clinton wrote a letter to Arab Americans and authorised its translation into Arabic, and we ended up doing very well for him in Michigan and other states."

Zogby made the obvious point: "Only in America," he said, "would an Arab American spokesman call a Jewish American Senator to call a Greek Orthodox campaign operative to let us help a Southern Baptist get elected president."

Mr. Broder's story has been read by dozens of Democratic leaders. Mr. Clinton transition officials and major Jewish leaders, all of whom have called in the past week to express their support for Arab Americans, and to declare that such exclusion as Arab Americans have suffered should become a thing of the past. And though the story that Mr. Broder recounted represented a victory for our community, it necessitated a flurry of activity on our part to sustain and strengthen that victory.

Therefore, what is important to note is not only that Arab Americans gained access to the campaign, but also that, once recognised, we performed remarkably well on behalf of the campaign. Within days after the meeting in Little Rock, an

"Arab-American Democrats are feeling fairly confident about their new acceptance by their party and the transition effort. While they are still concerned about the direction of U.S. policy — and their ability to be included in its discussion — towards the Arab World, they feel that their new and deeper involvement in the political process will provide them with direct channels through which to help shape the policy debate."

Arab-American endorsement of Bill Clinton was issued by Arab-American Democrats. The list of endorsers consisted of prominent Arab Americans from 25 states, including two members of Congress, nine mayors, 15 other elected officials and 40 Arab-American Democratic Party leaders.

Governor Clinton responded to our endorsement with a letter of acceptance which read:

"I want to thank you as an Arab American for your support. Al Gore and I are proud to represent the Democratic Party, which has always been a party of inclusion. We look forward to working in the spirit of unity with all Americans in a Clinton administration that will promote economic opportunity and social justice. We will continue to work for and defend the civil and political rights of all Americans, just as we will work tirelessly to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and throughout the world. We look forward to celebrating a Democratic victory with you in November."

During the campaign, Arab Americans raised hundreds of thousands of dollars, volunteered to work, and made significant efforts to get out the Democratic vote on Nov. 3 in three key Midwestern states (Illinois, Ohio and Michigan).

Gore campaign. The Clinton team most appreciated and recognised the Arab-American effort in Michigan, a state they felt they needed to win but in which they expected difficulty, because Arab Americans are so numerous there as to make up a sizable voting bloc.

And so in some sense, because Arab Americans — as Democrats — played their part, and because Bill Clinton is committed to policies of diversity and inclusion, Arab Americans have been provided the same recognition and access that has been given to other ethnic and constituent groups during the transition period.

Our community has noted with pride that one of the first cabinet appointments made by Mr. Clinton was Donna Shalala, as secretary of Health and Human Services. Ms. Shalala is an Arab American from Cleveland (in fact, her father was the long-time president of Cleveland's Syrian-Lebanese Club), and she is currently chancellor of the University of Wisconsin. She will be the highest ranking Arab American in government.

Arab American Democrats have formed a task force to help secure Arab American appointments in the next round of nominations, at assistant and undersecretary level. This task force is collecting resumes from qualified Arab Americans and working with the Clinton transition team to make certain that these qualified candidates are considered for appropriate positions. This was the purpose of a meeting between the Arab American leadership and Transition Chairman Vernon Jordan and the Transition's Deputy Director Alexis Herman. At the meeting we presented the resumes of our most qualified and distinguished candidates.

There have also been lengthy meetings between Arab Americans and members of the Clinton foreign policy transition staff and the domestic policy staff. In four separate meetings with members of the foreign policy staff we discussed a wide range of issues, including:

- The peace process and the recent Israeli expulsion of several hundred Palestinians;
- Lebanon and its process of national reconciliation, as well as its need for assistance in that endeavor;
- the continuing plight of Muslims and others in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia;
- and need for the incoming Clinton administration to understand the role of Islam in the contemporary Middle East, and the complexity of the Islamic experience.

Arab-American Democrats are feeling fairly confident about their new acceptance by their party and the transition effort. While they are still concerned about the direction of U.S. policy — and their ability to be included in its discussion — towards the Arab World, they feel that their new and deeper involvement in the political process will provide them with direct channels through which to help shape the policy debate.

This, for Arab Americans, is the new lesson learned during the past ten years: Politics is hard work, and you can only partake of its rewards if you participate.

The above article first appeared in the Dec. 21, 1992, edition of Arab News. The article is reprinted with the author's permission. Dr. Zogby is president of the Washington-based Arab American Institute.

LETTERS

Time to awaken

To the Editor:

The latest deportation of more than four hundred Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip is a further glaring example of the cruel Israeli occupation. The United Nations, steering predominant member, the U.S., would lose its credibility to implement Security Council Resolution 799 of December 1992, which condemns Israel for this unlawful and inhuman deportation and calls upon it to return the deportees safely to their homes in the occupied territories.

Israel's action violates the 4th Geneva Convention concerning the protection of civilians under occupation in international conventions on human rights. But Israel, with its impudence and arrogance, puts the blame on Lebanon and for the dire conditions in which they are living. A absurd pretension!

If we adopt this crooked and dishonest logic, then Israel any time deport Palestinians and drop them in any corner wishes and then put the blame on that country. Israel has gone too far and it seems it is making a laughing-stock of United Nations and its members.

It is therefore incumbent upon the Security Council to sanctions upon Israel under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter if it continues to flout Resolution 799, as the S. Council has done in the past with regard to other states, South Africa and Iraq. It is high time for the international community, particularly the western world, to put an end to Israel's arrogance, intransigence and its making a mockery of United Nations resolutions. Israel has been coddled western world for far too much and much too long.

But blame must also be directed to the Arab and Muslim for their inaction. Positive and quick action is required, and not simply words and nothing but words. What subject matter regards the Palestinian problem, Bosnia or there does not seem to be any effective Arab or Muslim awakening; the Arab and Muslim states seem to be in slumber while the western world has reached the morass of a galaxy of stars.

I do not blame some Arab writers who are calling for dissolution of the Arab League and the Organisation Islamic Conference for their not doing something concrete effective in order to succour the oppressed Arab or peoples. This is indeed a depressing and frustrating situation. It is relevant and appropriate to recall the ode of the Lebanese writer and poet Ibrahim Al Yazeji (1874-1906) in which he laments the Arab World: "Arise, ye Arabs and awake, should be the slogan of all Arabs, but it should be put into so as the civilised world respects and heeds us."

Pascal B. R. Amman

Illegal deportation

To the Editor:

The 20 million Bangladeshis who have been living in India cannot be sent back to Bangladesh against their will. They have become Indian citizens by naturalisation. They have Indian cards, they have been working or doing business or have even obtained voting rights. It is illegal to send them back to Bangladesh. There are also about 15 million Pakistanis, most of whom cannot even be detected as the married Indian Muslims, whom they resemble, and have assimilated. Partition of the Indian subcontinent has succeeded in destroying the strong family bonds existing between many Muslims of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

Why should there be discrimination against Muslim immigrants in India when Hindu immigrants can be accepted in Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, East Africa, Fiji, Mauritius and elsewhere? Why should Hindus only be allowed to increase their numbers and percentage in population?

It should be remembered that even the Aryans are original inhabitants of India as they are the descendants of invading hordes from Central Asia. Can the descendants of the Aryans be deported and the country handed over to the original tribal natives, Dravidians, Nagas, the descendants of the Indus Valley Civilisation, etc.? The witch-hunt against Bangladeshis and Pakistani immigrants and other Muslims stopped as India can only survive as a secular country. If the done, India will break in many parts like some of the neighbouring countries.

The Hindu parties will never succeed in getting the immigrants deported as they have already become Indian by the internationally recognised Law of Naturalisation. Muslims of India and the world will not agree with and object to an illegal and inhuman action. All the Muslims of the world, even the non-Muslims would be antagonised and shall stand in action by all possible means.

When millions of Hindus can live and work in Muslim countries in the Gulf region, why cannot Muslim immigrants live in India? If 20 million Bangladeshis and 15 million Pakistanis deported, which of course is an absolutely impossible task, Hindus from the rich Gulf countries would also be sent to India. Let not the Hindu parties talk any more nonsense about deporting the Bangladeshis and other Muslim immigrants who are legally Indian citizens now.

Iqbal Mohammad 485 Ganj Peth, India.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld on request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of manuscripts.

Features

APU seeks Security Council deadline

(Continued from page 1)

Earlier, His Royal Highness Prince Hassan, the Regent, told the APU meeting that the 415 Palestinians, who were expelled from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and sent to Israel to abide by the Oslo Accords, should be punished for their role in the violence.

The United Nations Security Council meeting was held in Amman, Jordan, and the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and sent to Israel to abide by the Oslo Accords, should be punished for their role in the violence.

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Sustainable agriculture strives to protect environment while increasing food production

By Ben Wedeman

FOR THOUSANDS of years the farmers in West Asia tilled the soil, producing not only enough food for the region, but also a surplus for export. Yet today West Asia no longer produces enough food to feed itself. It imports more food per capita than any other region in the world. Responding to the burgeoning demand for food, farmers in the region are trying to wrest from the earth a level of food production it simply cannot sustain.

Soil erosion and nutrient exhaustion are becoming ever more common. Scarce water resources are being rapidly depleted. Overgrazing is creating deserts. The possibility of an environmental catastrophe is looming large on the horizon.

Population growth has already considerably outpaced agricultural production in most countries of the region. The gap between supply and demand is bound to widen even more in the years to come. The land area cannot be increased for increased food production. On the contrary, agricultural land is being encroached

upon for urban purposes to meet the requirements of the increasing population.

The experience of the last three decades has shown that increased crop productivity is only part of the solution to feeding the world. A comprehensive approach to agriculture, an awareness of both the long and short-term effects of any given crop or farming practice, is critical for sustained agricultural production. Despite this, only in recent years has agricultural sustainability become an issue.

Though agricultural mechanisation and chemical fertilisers and pesticides have enabled farmers to realise amazing yield increases, these innovations have also led to a fundamental loss between equilibrium. "Miracle" technologies of the past two or three decades made it easy for farmers, and agricultural researchers, to forget the importance of maintaining the fine balance between man's needs and the laws of nature. With growing public concern over global warming, environmental pollution and toxic wastes, the concept of sustainability has finally begun to receive the attention it rightly deserves.

But what is this concept of sustainability? According to the definition put forward by the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research, an international group of eminent agricultural scientists and representatives of donor agencies, sustainability is "the successful management of resources for agriculture to satisfy changing human needs while maintaining or enhancing the natural resource base and avoiding environmental degradation."

A modest but significant contribution to West Asia's efforts to achieve sustainable agriculture is the Mashreq Project, involving scientists from Jordan, Iraq, Syria and the Aleppo, Syria-based International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas

(ICARDA). Initiated in 1989 — with financial backing from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the United Nations Development Programme, this project is attempting to introduce farmers in the "barley belt," stretching from Jordan north to Syria and into Iraq, to new, more environmentally benign, farming methods.

The methods are really quite simple. Based upon a comprehensive set of recommendations on fertiliser use, improved barley strains, seed planting methods and other relatively small modifications of current farming practices, the project is now entering its second phase. If all goes well, the environment in this vast area will be spared further deterioration, while at the same time it will provide a more abundant and reliable food supply to

the growing population. While participating scientists are anxious not to claim success yet, they are on the right road to creating a better, more productive and sustainable environment for the farmers in this area.

Reversing current agricultural trends in West Asia is a long-term, time-consuming process. As the scientists working in the Mashreq Project know all too well, the results of their work will not become altogether apparent for some time. But by pooling their energy and know-how with the resources and experience of international research organisations, they represent an important step forward in the pressing effort to save the environment.

The writer is a communications specialist with the ICARDA-Amman office.

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Ministry of Transport

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Invitation for submission of pre-qualification data for the connection of Shidiya mine to ARC Railway line.

The closing date for the above mentioned submission of pre-qualification data is extended until 12 noon Saturday, June 16, 1993, instead of Wednesday Dec. 30, 1992. All other terms and conditions remain the same.

Best regards,
M.M. Krishan,
D.G.
A.R.C.

Lebanon rejects

(Continued from page 1)

mountain trails by sympathizers and villagers.

A prominent evacuee, Professor Aziz Dweik, held a news conference at the camp at midday to announce five demands he said he wanted Mr. Jouni to carry to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali.

They included a call for stepped-up international pressure to rescind the expulsions and ensure the flow of food, water and medical supplies to the camp until the evacuees were allowed to return.

Israeli officials acknowledged Monday that they had expelled 10 men by mistake, one of them a 16-year-old arrested for scribbling anti-Israel slogans.

Bassem Siouri, 16, the youngest in the camp, said he had a feeling that he was one of those who could be returned.

"I'm very happy that I may be going back, but my happiness would be complete if the whole camp could go back with me," said Siouri, tears filling his eyes.

The camp's spokesman, Gaza physician Abdul Aziz Rantisi, said: "We're not going to force anyone to return. If they want to go home, they are free to do so. If they choose to stay with us to demonstrate solidarity with the cause, they're more than welcome."

France said Tuesday that despite rebuffs it was still trying to bring relief supplies.

Arafat wants new U.N. action

(Continued from page 1)

all for the council to adopt a resolution based on Chapter 1 of the U.N. Charter — which envisages the possible use of force — Mr. Arafat said: "We say that, but we are for the implementation of the resolution all means."

He said it was up to the Security Council to decide on the measures to take.

The Palestinian attitude is that the expellees should return

home in order to assure the resumption of the peace talks," Mr. Arafat said.

The PLO has said the 14-month-old Middle East peace talks cannot resume until the expellees return home.

No date has been set for the next round of talks. However, at a Palestinian leadership meeting in Tunis last weekend the PLO ignored calls from headline groups including the Islamic resistance movement Hamas for a full withdrawal from the talks.

"The General Islamic Conference for Jerusalem appeals to the APU to play a leading role and take practical steps to reactivate solidarity among Arab countries to counter Israel's measures," the cable said.

He urged the APU to form a team that would convey this message to the leaders of the Arab Nation, who are called upon to undertake personal initiatives for the sake of reviving Arab solidarity.

The message urged the APU to "convey the seriousness of the situation in the occupied Arab lands resulting from Israel's practices to the Arab masses and to urge Arabs and Muslims to rally to save the holy places from Zionist conspiracies."

The most dangerous aspect is that it could be the start of a new expulsion operation that would take the form of collective punishment to empty the occupied Arab Palestinian territories," J. Abdul Kader Kaddourah, leader of the Syrian parliament.

The daylong meeting was held in Amman, Jordan, and the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and sent to Israel to abide by the Oslo Accords, should be punished for their role in the violence.

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Manchester United crush Coventry 5-0, move into second place

LONDON (R) — Manchester United confirmed their status as English Premier League favorites by trouncing Coventry 5-0 Monday to move into second place three points behind faltering leaders Norwich.

First half strikes from Welsh wizards Ryan Giggs and Mark Hughes, then a penalty by French star Eric Cantona and late goals from winger Lee Sharpe and defender Denis Irwin gave United their best win of the season.

"We were beaten by a very good side," Coventry manager Bobby Gould said afterwards. "Some of their football was a delight to behold. We have seen a super performance."

Norwich, goalless for the fourth match in a row, missed a 10th-minute penalty and were held 0-0 in an exciting clash at Leeds, the defending champions. They still lead the table on 41 points with United on 38.

Aston Villa moved alongside United on points with a 1-0 triumph over luckless Arsenal in a Monday night battle. But Villa have an inferior goal difference. Dean Saunders' penalty on the stroke of half time extended Arsenal's run without a win to seven matches, during which they have played just two points and scored only once.

Blackburn Rovers, minus injured 22-goal England striker Alan Shearer, dropped to fourth a point behind after 2-1 loss at Ipswich.

Everton had two players sent off in the first half at Queen's Park Rangers, who won 4-2 with a hat-trick by England winger Andy Sinton after the visitors' nine men had staged a brave fight-back from three goals down.

Welsh international goalkeeper Neville Southall was shown the red card after 18 minutes for deliberate handball outside the penalty area and striker Paul Rideout was dismissed for violent conduct on the stroke of half-time.



Ryan Giggs

Manchester United, who led at this stage last season only to be beaten to the post by Leeds, extended their undefeated run to seven matches with their superb showing at home.

Coventry, who beat Villa 3-0 Saturday and Liverpool 5-1 a

week earlier, lost for the first time in five games and striker Mick Quinn failed to score for the first in seven since joining them last month.

Giggs began the rout in the sixth minute with a curling left-footed shot to the far post after

the defence failed to clear a Cantona header.

Cantona and Giggs combined to provide Hughes with his 11th goal of the season in the 40th minute.

After the break Cantona hit his 11th — he scored eight for Leeds — from the penalty spot after Coventry midfielder Phil Babb had handled a cross from defender Paul Parker.

Sharpe, recently back from a long absence through injury and illness, netted his first of the season 12 minutes from time and Irwin drove home from 15 metres five minutes later.

"It is so much easier to play when the team is performing like that," Sharpe said. "We all work for each other and there is a great team spirit."

Norwich's Mark Bowen shot a penalty a metre wide after Ruel Fox was brought down from behind against Leeds.

Ipswich, unbeaten at home and with only two defeats in the Premier League, moved into fifth place five points behind Norwich. Shearer's replacement Roy Wegerle put Blackburn in front in the 73rd minute, but Ipswich's new Bulgarian signing Bontcho Guechev with an overhead kick and Chris Kiwomya with his 13th goal of the season turned the match round in the final minutes.

Welsh veteran Ian Rush, almost dropped because of his poor league goals tally, equalised for Liverpool in a 1-1 draw at home to Manchester City, who went ahead through Ireland's Niall Quinn.

Crystal Palace won 1-0 at Middlesbrough, a fifth successive victory in a run that has seen them climb from the relegation zone to mid-table.

Nottingham Forest remained rooted to the bottom five points behind Wimbledon after a 2-1 loss at Tottenham, skipper Gary Mabbutt snatching the points with his first goal of the season four minutes from time.

Petrovic named best European player of 1992

MILAN (AP) — Drazen Petrovic, the Croatian star of New Jersey Nets, was voted as the best European basketball player of 1992 in a survey by Italy's largest sports daily.

Petrovic was given the honor

for the third time in seven years.

In an interview with the Milan daily, Gazzetta dello Sport, Petrovic, 28, was quoted as saying that he was ready to return to Europe after a successful stint in the National Basketball Association.

"I joined the NBA to prove that an European player can compete at such levels. I succeeded. Thus I am looking forward to a comeback to Europe next season," he said.

Petrovic disclosed that his agent got bids from at least five European clubs, including two Spanish and two Italian teams. "I have not yet taken a final decision about my future. I will consider the best bid in due time," Petrovic said.

In the survey among players, coaches and basketball experts in 30 countries Petrovic received 132 points.

Toni Kukoc, another Croatian, who plays in Italy with Benetton Treviso, got 83 points to finish runner-up.

Lithuanian Arvidas Sabonis finished third in the survey, at 66 points.

Russian Natalia Zasluskaia, who led the CIS to the Olympic title in Barcelona, was voted as

the best European woman player of the year.

Washington break losing streak

Pervis Ellison connected on 1 of 2 free throws with 5.7 seconds left as the Washington Bullets broke a nine-game losing streak with a 97-96 victory Monday night over the Atlanta Hawks.

The teams traded the lead seven times in the second half before Washington took a 92-79 lead with six minutes remaining in the fourth period.

Harvey Grant led the Bullets with 25 points, while Ellison scored 21 points and Tom Gugliotta had 18 points and 13 rebounds. Graham paced the Hawks with 29 points and Ferrell scored 20.

It was Washington's first victory since a 114-106 decision over Sacramento Dec. 8. The loss was the sixth in eight games for the Hawks.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Platt's comeback may be postponed

TURIN (AP) — David Platt's return to action following a knee surgery may be postponed, the player's Italian club, Juventus of Turin, announced Monday. The English midfielder, who last month underwent a knee surgery to remove some cartilage, is nursing an inflammation which is likely to delay his comeback, a club spokesman reported. Platt, a regular member of England's national team, was expected to resume action when the Turin team plays Parma at home in a league match. The English player may also miss the next league game against Sampdoria, on Jan. 10, Juventus said.

New Zealand Endeavour wins Sydney-Hobart race

SYDNEY (AP) — Maxi-ketch New Zealand Endeavour won the 630-nautical mile Sydney-Hobart ocean classic, crossing the line Tuesday in the third fastest time in the 48-year history of the race. The high-tech New Zealand ketch, skippered by Grant Dalton, had an official time of 2 days, 19 hours, 19 minutes, 10 seconds. The Kiwi entry was only the fifth yacht to complete the race in under three days. New Zealand Endeavour, built for the 1993-94 Whitbread Round-The-World Race, had been chasing a \$70,000 bonus from the race sponsors if it could beat the record of two days 14 hours, 36 minutes, 56 seconds for the 630 nautical miles (1,168 kilometres). The record was set by American skipper Jim Kilroy in Kialoa II in 1975. Sydney pocket-maxi Amazon crossed the finish line on the Derwent River more than three hours behind Endeavour, taking second place, while Kodak Express, a second New Zealand boat, finished third.

Trainer Pipe saddles first four

CHEPSTOW (R) — Trainer Martin Pipe enjoyed a magnificent clean sweep when his horses filled the first four positions in the Welsh National Handicap Steeplechase Monday. Pipe enjoyed it so much he sprang round the winner's enclosure after the race, supervising the unsaddling operation. "Amazing, I can't believe it," he exclaimed after his rare achievement. Run For Free won the race, surviving a dramatic blunder seven fences from home, to beat 50-1 shot Riverside Boy by eight lengths. Mitnehoma was third and Bonanza Boy fourth in the 11-horse field.

Austrian ski queen announces retirement

VIENNA (AP) — Petra Kronberger had reached the pinnacle of her sport, achieved her goals, and still had her health. At the ripe age of 23, the Austrian skier who has led the world circuit for three years running found herself asking the question posed by many young superstars before her.

"Why go on?" "I have reached everything possible in the world of ski racing," read the statement, issued by the Austrian Ski Union, that announced Kronberger's stunning retirement. "I didn't have the same commitment as before."

Kronberger, a plain-spoken former bank clerk, burst on the World Cup scene four years ago when she finished 17th in the overall standings. Over the next three years, she notched up 16 World Cup victories, culminating with two gold medals at the Albertville Olympics earlier this year.

Her style was unspectacular, but she was versatile and effective. She mastered all four disciplines — the downhill, slalom, giant slalom, and super giant slalom — and won World Cup races in each. Her Olympic golds came in the slalom and the combined event and she finished just outside of the medals in the downhill and Super-G.

Her performances this year, however, have fallen short of the expected Kronberger standard. "(She) was having trouble finding motivation," noted teammate Anita Wachter before a race in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

"Petra is crazy to renounce all that money," the statement said. "My health is more important." Kronberger had hinted at the pressures of competition last season in preparation for the Albertville Games. Coming off a January slump, she was worried that she'd never live up to the Olympic pressure applied by the fanatic Austrian media and fans.

Meanwhile, Italian skiers and the media Tuesday expressed astonishment over the retirement of Kronberger.

"She was in the running for another overall title in the Cup and for gold medals in Morioka," said Olympic champion Deborah Compagnoni of Italy. "Her decision is really surprising. However she had won so much in her career and possibly lacked motivations for standing hard training and the stress of competition from younger skiers on the Austrian team."

"It's the most sensational retirement in the history of women's skiing," said Piernario Calcagni, coach of the Italian women's team.

"Her decision was a real thunderbolt in the blue," he said.



Croatian Drazen Petrovic (right) in action in the NBA

GOREN BRIDGE

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NORTH

7 6 4 3

7 5 6 3

10 6 2

WEST

Q J 8

10 5

A 10 9 6 4 2

7 6

SOUTH

A K 2

K Q

Q 8 3

A K Q J 9

The bidding:

South: West North East

3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of

Some hands just don't lend themselves to a clear-cut right or wrong play. That's when a bridge expert allows instinct, honed over thousands of hands at the table, to take over. This deal is from a rubber-bridge game in which all players were nationally ranked.

South's opening bid of three no trump showed a balanced hand of 25-27 points. Not surprisingly, no one else was interested in getting into the auction.

West led a low diamond and the automatic play most sitting in the East seat would be the king.

However, East felt sure South had a stopper in the suit—if declarer held both the ace and queen, no play by

East would matter. If it was the ace, the contract probably couldn't be held a side entry, so a hold-up play by declarer would kill the diamond suit.

Therefore, East decided to base the defense on the premise that declarer's stopper was the queen, and followed with the jack on the first trick!

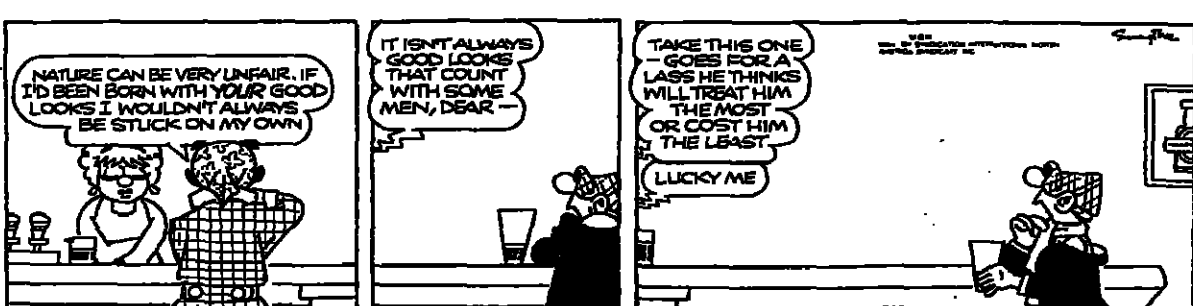
Consider declarer's predicament. As the cards lie, the contract could be made by allowing the jack to win, but if West held the ace-king of diamonds, or if the suit were divided 5-3 in the defenders' hands, that would be tantamount to surrender before battle had been joined. Instead, South chose to rely on guile.

After winning the first trick with the queen of diamonds, declarer entered dummy by overruling the nine of clubs with the ten and leading a crafty jack of hearts, making it look as if a heart finesse was in the works. Had East played low, declarer would have cashed out nine tricks. But a wide-awake East shot up with the ace of hearts and returned a diamond. West overtook the king and cashed four more diamonds for a two-trick set.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1992
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Richter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Look to clear newsmen for the information you are seeking while avoiding those who are too superficial. Do something that will have a good effect upon your health and think constructively.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Now you have a fine day to discuss and thresh out with businessmen and from any available sources that information that can aid your practical affairs.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Consider what you want to bring to the attention of outside associates so you can make better arrangements with them in the days ahead.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Look for whatever more efficient methods and improvements you can put in effect where daily activities are concerned, then reassess their potential usefulness.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You need to know more about some recreation or pleasure in which you are planning to engage and this is a good time to do just that.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A situation at your residence requires you handle it with more than usual tact and diplomacy or some unfortunate tensions could remain for sometime.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Dive into whatever pamphlets and journals are available to get a

more well rounded awareness how to make your daily more productive.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You are very much concerned about the practical aspects of financial position at the moment can study and uncover what later improve them.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You are intensely concerned with yourself and what you want today and tonight but you want over potential favors others by such an attitude.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A friend usually very understanding pressures that do not permit ing as much time with you your wishes as you would.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Take some time now to build up whatever ten a public nature that need repaired by you or more care your location.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Some conditions of light that can create a big pay for you if you allow them to pass these by and you save your grief.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You have many new ideas some of them are very good. It is necessary that you use the stick of discrimination for the results.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Stanley, when the marriage counselor said we should start dating again, she meant with each other!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles. One letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HOBUG

PHOCE

SORIAL

TAMLED

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

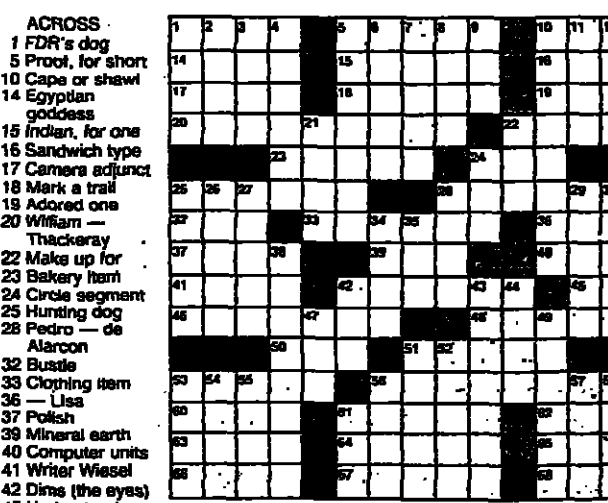
Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: HENCE BANDY FABRIC BEMOAN

Answer: When every gambler is an optimist—BEFOREHAND

THE Daily Crossword

by Joan D. Berbrich



Following are the clues and gold age Exchange rates

ACROSS

1 FDR's dog

10 Cape or sheaf

14 Egyptian goddess

15 Indian, for one

16 Sandwich type

17 Camera adjust

18 Mark a trail

19 Adorned one

20 William

22 Make up for

23 Bakery item

24 Circle segment

25 Hunting dog

28 Pedro — de Alarcón

32 Bustle

33 Clothing item

36 — Lisa

37 Polish

39 Mineral earth

40 Computer units

41 Writer Wiesel

42 Time (two eyes)

45 Understand

46 Erie — Gardner

48 Slay

50 Charged particle

51 Amplifying device

53 Swimmer's

54 Swimmer's

55 Henry

56 Longfellow

57 Opponent's car

58 Telegram

59 Rippling factor

60 Projecting

61 Neighborhood

62 N.C. college

63 Between: prof.

64 Odense native

67 Thing of beauty

68 Penn

69 Down

1 Movie

2 Cruising

3 Sausage type

4 Pluses

5 Mary

6 Rinehart

7 Dazzling effect

8 Denial

9 — for the road

10 James — Riley

11 Decorate again

12 Elvis — Presley

13 Warsaw native

21 56A, e.g.

22 Garibaldi

24 Leaf cutter

25 — "in Toyland"

26 Grouper

27 Bulgarian city

28 Neighborhood

29 Cacophony

30 Between: prof.

31 Desert spots

34 Sacred

35 Wrath

36 James

37 Cooper

42 Franklin

43 James — Lowell

44 Fire

47 Cut off

48 Garden tool

51 "Ave"

52 Snake

53 Garbed

54 Latvian city

55 Prayer word

Economy

Financial Markets

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Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE	TOKYO CLOSE
British Pound	1.4980	1.5048
Deutsche Mark	1.6205	1.6170
Swiss Franc	1.4675	1.4640
French Franc	5.5225	5.5155 **
Japanese Yen	124.90	124.57
European Currency Unit	1.2050	1.2068 **

USD Per STG European Opening @ 8:00 a.m. GMT
Inter-Continental Bank Rates Date: 29.12.1992

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.62	3.50	3.37	3.93
British Pound	7.00	7.10	6.81	6.72
Deutsche Mark	8.67	8.68	8.31	7.66
Swiss Franc	6.00	5.81	5.63	5.25
French Franc	10.50	10.75	10.37	9.50
Japanese Yen	3.81	3.68	3.50	3.68
European Currency Unit	10.31	10.13	10.00	8.93

London bid rates for minimum exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.
London Market Date: 29.12.1992

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	333.35	6.50	Silver	3.69	.080

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 29.12.1992

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6900	0.6920
British Pound	1.0370	1.0422
Deutsche Mark	0.4261	0.4282
Swiss Franc	0.4714	0.4738
French Franc	0.1252	0.1258
Japanese Yen	0.5531	0.5559
Bank Guilder	0.3785	0.3804
Swedish Krona	0.0966	0.0971
Sri Lanka	0.0475	0.0477
Italian Lira	0.02093	0.02103

Other Currencies Date: 29.12.1992

Currency	Bid	Offer
Israeli Sheqel	1.7770	1.8200
Chinese Rmb	0.03548	0.03644
South African Rand	0.1800	0.1850
Kenyan Shilling	2.2700	2.3000
Qatari Riyal	0.1850	0.1872
Ugandan Shilling	0.2020	0.2150
Indian Rupee	1.7560	1.7820
Thai Baht	0.1450	0.1472
Czech Dracema	0.3239	0.3439
Cypriot Pound	1.4283	1.4483

Index	27.12.92 Close	28.12.92 Close
All Share	172.53	173.02
Banking Sector	125.42	125.05
Insurance Sector	187.66	189.61
Industry Sector	234.31	236.06
Service Sector	246.67	246.96

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session in the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

U.S. dollar	1.2635/40	Canadian dollar	1.6180/90
Deutsche mark	1.8150/200	Dutch guilder	1.4665/75
Swiss franc	33.17/27	Belgian franc	5.5150/250
French franc	1465/1475	Italian lire	124.57/67
Japanese yen	7.0950/1050	Swedish crown	6.8520/620
Norwegian crown	6.2320/30	Danish crown	1.5100/10
Gold	333.25/333.35		

U.S. airlines fly over dismal '92 seeking profits

NEW YORK (R) — The U.S. airline industry had a notoriously dismal 1992 but analysts say next year may end up being a bridge to a profitable 1994.

"Clearly, 1992 will be marked as the third year of financial hemorrhaging for the U.S. airline industry," said Salomon Bros analyst Julius Maldutis, who dubbed 1993 a likely "transition year" to sharp profits later.

The new year, however, is likely to start inauspiciously with a rash of poor earnings reports for 1992.

The nine major U.S. airlines lost \$1.2 billion in the first half of 1992, bringing total losses since 1990 to \$7.5 billion.

The U.S. industry has been hit by a series of body blows, start-

ing with Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait and the consequent near-doubling of fuel prices. A year later, recession and the Gulf war kept passengers at home.

This year, weak domestic traffic trends and the fare cutting they spawned defeated all hope for profits.

The fare cutting followed an attempt by the biggest U.S. airline, AMR Corp.'s American Airlines, to put fares into a four-tier system it called "value pricing."

What one analyst dubbed "the mother of all fare wars" followed. As they flew plane loads of passengers paying half prices, the airlines tallied big losses in late spring and summer, usually their most profitable period.

With a third straight year of losses in the offing, airlines began to retrench.

Analysts said aircraft cancellations and deferrals form the seeds of recovery. Domestic capacity should rise by less than three per cent in 1993, while traffic should rise by 3.5 per cent, Mr. Maldutis predicted.

Air fares have also been creeping higher, setting the stage for higher yields and a relatively better profit picture in 1993, said Kidder Peabody Co. analyst Samuel Buttrick.

Sudan sells textile firm to Korean company

KHARTOUM (R) — The Sudanese government has sold the Sudan Textile Factory in Khartoum to the Giant South Korean firm Daewoo for 80 million Sudanese pounds (\$6 million at the official rate) Industry Minister Taj Al Sir Mustafa said.

The factory was closed down in 1988 due to weak management, industrial unrest, and lack of hard currency to import spares.

The factory is 80 per cent owned by Kuwait, while the rest of its shares are held by the Sudanese billionaire Khalil Osman.

It was not clear whether Khartoum consulted the Kuwaiti government or Mr. Osman on the sale by the government but the factory is reported to have accumulated debts running into millions of Sudanese pounds.

Sudan backed Iraq over its seven-month occupation of Kuwait.

The official Sudanese News Agency quoted Mr. Mustafa as saying the factory, one of the country's biggest employers, would absorb more than the 9,000 workers it used to employ.

He said Daewoo was expected to pay 15 per cent sales tax on top of the cost of the factory.

Turmoil, crisis fail to ground Mideast airlines

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The Middle East's airlines are flying high again, two years after the Gulf crisis threatened to doom the region's aviation industry.

But while most have managed to operate through political turmoil, the region's carriers still face the same problems as other airlines afflicted by high costs and recession.

"They've got the people back in the planes but not in a way to create profits," said John Brindley of the International Air Transport Association in Geneva. "The yield has not increased, and costs, of course, have increased."

To help improve their bottom lines, many Mideast carriers have undertaken major expansion projects, and new airports are being built to accommodate such growth.

Kuwait Airways Corp., ransacked by the Iraqis during the Gulf war, is negotiating financing for between seven and eight new Airbus jets. Al Rajhi, the Saudi-based Islamic bank, already has arranged financing for two A320s and Airbus Industrie has agreed to buy back six older A300s that had been hijacked by Iraq.

Shorouk Airlines, a charter carrier formed by Egypt Air and Kuwait Airways, has ordered four Boeing 757s for \$240 million and taken options on four others. They will operate between the Middle East and Europe.

Bahrain-based Gulf Air, owned by Bahrain, Oman, Abu Dhabi and Qatar, has ordered six long-range Airbus A340s at \$600 million and has taken options on six more. Gulf Air lost \$74 million in 1990 because of the Kuwait crisis, but posted a \$48 million profit last year and saw a three per cent increase in passenger volume.

Al Rajhi also is providing financing for another A310-300 for Gulf Air's main rival, Dubai-based Emirates Airlines, adding to that carrier's fleet of seven A310s. Five were purchased this year. Emirates has ordered seven Boeing 777s with an option on seven more, making it the first Middle East airline to order the world's largest twin-jet passenger aircraft.

Bahrain forecasts \$1 billion aluminium industry

MANAMA (R) — Bahrain expects to produce aluminium worth \$1 billion from its massive smelter by the year 2000 after having doubled its production capacity this year.

"We will be producing 460,000 tonnes of aluminium every year and our production will be worth \$1 billion in five to seven years," Bahrain's Gulf Daily News quoted Development and Industry Minister Youssef Shirawi as saying.

Officials have said a \$1.5 billion expansion programme at Aluminium Bahrain (ALBA), one of the world's biggest aluminium plants, was completed this month and a new smelting line was up and running.

They said, however, that it would not be producing at full capacity until there were contracts for all its output.

ALBA is 77 per cent-owned by the Bahrain government, 20 per cent by the Saudi Public Investment Fund and three per cent by the German group Breton Investment.

Mr. Shirawi said Bahrain expected to develop numerous new downstream aluminium projects during 1993 and an aluminium research centre would be set up to bolster the local industry.

"I expect 12 schemes that will be announced or set up. We will have one new project a month next year," he said.

The minister said economic activity was beginning to thrive in Bahrain after suffering during the Gulf war.

The governor of the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) said that international confidence in Bahrain as a major financial centre had been growing since the end of the Gulf war in 1991.

"If anything...our reputation has been enhanced. And in parallel with that enhanced reputation, confidence has grown," Abdullah Saif told the Gulf Daily News.

"This is demonstrated by the number of licence applications received by the BMA and the substantial increase in OBU (offshore banking unit) assets and liabilities since the end of the Gulf crisis," Mr. Saif said.

Russia to join IFC

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's parliament has adopted a resolution advocating membership of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a unit of the World Bank which specialises in aid to the private sector. ITAR-TASS news agency said IFC membership would grant Russia access to large foreign loans and investments, speed up privatisation and facilitate creation of a stock market. TASS said Russia's share in the capital of the IFC would amount to 3.42 per cent, making it one of the largest shareholders. It said Moscow would have to pay about \$28.5 million to become a member and about \$17 million more in the first membership year. The IFC has been helping with Russia's privatisation programme, launched this year as a key element of its moves to switch to a market economy.

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U.S., Russia reach accord to get rid of hundreds of nuclear arms

GENEVA (AP) — Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger Tuesday announced an agreement with Russia on a START II treaty to sharply reduce nuclear missiles maintained by the two countries.

Mr. Eagleburger said after a 90-minute meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev that they were ready to report back to their presidents.

"We have made very good progress," Mr. Eagleburger said. "We now have a text we can put to the two presidents."

He said he was flying back to Washington later in the day.

Mr. Eagleburger said presidents George Bush and Boris Yeltsin will review the agreement and hopefully "we'll have news for you in the next few days" about plans to sign it.

The treaty would remove hundreds of deadly long-range nuclear missiles on both sides and cut the stockpiles of U.S. and Russian strategic weapons to about one-third of current levels.

Answering questions on a cold and dreary winter day, Mr. Eagleburger left open the possibility of further negotiations to fine-tune the agreement.

"It's up to the presidents to look at the documents and see if we've made sufficient progress to sign an agreement," he said.

"If there are changes they would want to suggest, obviously, we'd have to come back together again."

Mr. Kozyrev said Mr. Eagleburger had given reporters "an accurate description" of the situa-

tion. "So please now, wait for news from President Bush and President Yeltsin," he said.

Neither Mr. Eagleburger nor Mr. Kozyrev provided details on how the last technical problems were resolved.

In Moscow, the independent news agency Interfax, quoting unidentified "well-informed sources," said the treaty would be signed at summit in Geneva or Paris.

In Washington, early reaction to the announcement was positive. Congressman Lee Hamilton, incoming chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, called the agreement "a great gift to the nation and to the world."

Mr. Hamilton, speaking on Fox Morning News, said "it certainly gives a good sendoff for President Bush as he leaves the presidency."

Leading up to the agreement, Mr. Eagleburger and Mr. Kozyrev had a working dinner until midnight while experts on the two sides discussed the remaining issues and brought periodic reports to them.

Mr. Eagleburger met at the Russian mission for more than three hours Monday with Mr. Kozyrev and Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev, and then they had lunch together while experts from the two sides held a working session.

Mr. Grachev's appearance at the negotiating table for the first time had seemed to indicate Moscow was ready to make a deal.

Mr. Kozyrev, in particular, had

expressed optimism all along.

Asked hours before it was announced whether he expected an agreement, Mr. Kozyrev said: "I am ready to bet a bottle of whiskey. We will do such work here to make it possible for our presidents to have the right decision after the negotiations here."

The foreign minister quickly amended his remark to say: "Positive decision."

Under the treaty, hundreds of the world's deadliest nuclear weapons — long-range, land-based missiles with multiple warheads — would be banned and stockpiles of U.S. and Russian strategic warheads would be pared to about one-third of current levels.

It would be Mr. Bush's third major arms control agreement. In 1990, he signed an east-west agreement to cut troops and tanks in Europe. Last year, he signed a treaty with Russia to cut strategic nuclear weapons by about one-third.

The final, technical questions included how many SS-18 silos the Russians will be permitted to retain and how bombers are to be counted under the treaty.

The Russians wanted to use the silos in which their heavy SS-18 missiles are deployed for SS-25 missiles. This could make the now-mobile SS-25s less vulnerable to a U.S. nuclear attack, although the Russians' motive apparently is to save money in implementing the treaty and re-vamping their nuclear forces.

The United States had sought destruction of the silos as a pre-

caution against potential attack from some future hardline regime in Moscow.

But Mr. Eagleburger had told reporters on the flight to Geneva that negotiations on the issue had come down to how many silos the Russians could retain under the treaty.

Also, he said, American negotiators had agreed to permit Russia to convert some of its 170 six-warhead SS-19 missiles to single-warhead missiles. The issue is how many.

Another sticking point concerned how missiles aboard bombers are counted and how many missiles are allocated for particular warplanes.

A key part of the problem involves U.S. B-1 bombers that carry nuclear weapons. The bombers would not be counted under the treaty once the weapons were removed.

However, the United States wants to preserve the option of being able to rearm the B-1s with nuclear weapons as they replace B-52 bombers being retired. If so, the Russians say, the B-1s should be counted under the U.S. total.

Under the treaty, each side would be required to get down to 3,000 to 3,500 strategic warheads by 2003.

The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty permits the United States to have about 8,500 strategic warheads, using lenient counting rules for bombers, and the Russians about 6,500.

The two sides now have a total of about 20,000 warheads.

U.N. accuses Khmer Rouge of killing 12 Vietnamese

PHNOM PENH (R) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas massacred 12 ethnic Vietnamese, including four children, and two Cambodians in a raid on a village in central Cambodia, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday.

"NADK (Khmer Rouge) elements arrived in two boats. They asked villagers to identify the Vietnamese. Those identified were summarily executed," the spokesman said.

It was the latest and most serious of a string of attacks against Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia. U.N. peacekeepers blame most on the Khmer Rouge, whose leaders have openly threatened the Vietnamese community with violence.

A further 14 people were wounded in the night raid on Kompong Tralach district in Kompong Chhnang province on Sunday, U.N. spokesman Eric Berman said.

The victims died from small

arms fire and shrapnel wounds. Six of the 12 Vietnamese victims were female and six male. Four were children.

"Two of the victims were Cambodian men. It's not known if they were targeted or killed accidentally," Mr. Berman said. "There's very strong evidence that indicates the attack was racially motivated," he said.

The wounded were taken to local hospitals. It was not known how many of them were Vietnamese.

Phnom Penh government troops returned fire on the retreating Khmer Rouge, the U.N. spokesman said.

A leaflet written in Khmer was left at the scene. A preliminary translation indicated it was a warning to the local population with references to the U.N. peacekeeping force, the spokesman said.

U.N. civilian police who had spoken to villagers were confi-

dent the attackers were Khmer Rouge — officially known as the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK).

Khmer Rouge leaders in Phnom Penh, where they reside under the terms of the 1991 Paris peace accord, could not be reached for comment.

The killings were the latest in a spate of attacks on the ethnic Vietnamese population of Cambodia.

Last week the bodies of three ethnic Vietnamese fishermen were found tied together by their necks floating down the Mekong River in Stung Treng province.

In July eight Vietnamese, including a baby, were murdered in a southern village.

The Khmer Rouge have made deep-seated hatred of Vietnamese a main point of their political propaganda and cite the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia as the main reason they are refusing to comply with the U.N.

peace accord.

Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia to oust a brutal Khmer Rouge government in December 1978. They stayed in support of a pro-Hanoi government until 1989.

The Khmer Rouge charges that soldiers still remain, although peacekeepers of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) have been unable to find any.

The guerrillas also say the settlers are part of a continued attempt by Vietnam to colonise its smaller neighbour.

Vietnamese have lived in Cambodia for generations, mostly working as fishermen and artisans. The arrival of UNTAC has attracted droves more, including an army of prostitutes.

UNTAC estimates at least 200,000 ethnic Vietnamese are in Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge say they number more than one million.



A man dressed like a clown waves a Brazilian flag in front of the Brazilian congress building in Brasilia Tuesday after the resignation of President Fernando Collor de Mello (AFP photo)

Collor resigns, evading impeachment

BRASILIA (R) — Suspended President Fernando Collor de Mello resigned Tuesday minutes after the opening of his senate impeachment trial in a move that could salvage his political life by allowing him to return to public office.

"The defence awaits calmly your acceptance of this resignation (to) put an end to the impeachment process of President Fernando Collor," said Mr. Collor's defence attorney Jose Moura Rocha, shortly after the senate session opened.

The 43-year-old Collor, who took the helm of Latin America's largest nation in March 1990 promising to end corruption, faced impeachment on charges he made millions from a government influence peddling scheme.

Mr. Collor was rumoured to have been preparing the move after failing to win further delays in the trial.

By resigning, Mr. Collor avoided a whole host of penalties that would have gone along with impeachment if convicted.

Besides removing him from the presidency, impeachment would have barred him from holding public office for eight years and stripped him of privileges due to ex-presidents — like secret service protection and use of a diplomatic passport.

Supreme Court President Sydney Sanches, immediately suspended the impeachment trial to study legal implications of the resignation on the impeachment proceedings.

Itamar Franco, Brazil's acting president since Mr. Collor was suspended, was to be officially sworn in as president Tuesday.

Brazil's financial markets reacted to the resignation positively with Sao Paulo's stock exchange rising 4.4 per cent just after the announcement was

broadcast on live television. The market later fell on profit-taking, sliding 1.6 per cent.

"Collor is gone for good. Now we have to see what Itamar Franco will do with the economy after he takes over," said one trader.

Meanwhile, congressional leaders called a special session of both houses to review the situation as Mr. Collor's opponents called for the impeachment proceedings to continue, despite the resignation.

The Collor scandal battered Brazil's struggling economy and left policy making on hold as while the impeachment battle played itself out over months.

Mr. Collor, a former governor of the small northeastern state of Alagoas, was suspended by the lower house of congress on Sept. 29 after a months-long investigation by a special congressional committee into the corruption charges.

7 killed in Peru pre-poll violence

LIMA (AP) — Seven people were killed in a third day of pre-election violence as Maoist rebels set off car bombs outside the Japanese and Chinese embassies, attacked a police station and tried to rob a bank.

Two police officers were killed late Monday when the Shining Path guerrillas attacked a police station.

President Alberto Fujimori, who is the son of Japanese immigrants, has pledged to defeat the Shining Path guerrillas before his term ends in July 1995. More

than 25,000 Peruvians have been killed since the rebels launched their insurgency in 1980.

The Shining Path has usually launched violent campaigns before elections to sabotage voting. Peruvians were electing mayors across the country Tuesday.

The rebels on Sunday shot dead a candidate for mayor in a district of Lima's port of Callao and detonated a car bomb in the coastal city of Huacho, 130 kilometres north of Lima, wounding at least 13 people, police said.

The attacks came after rebels

Saturday detonated car bombs against the Chinese, Austrian and Costa Rican embassies.

The attacks Saturday coincided with the birthday of former Chinese leader Mao Tse-Tung, who would have been 99. No casualties were reported.

The rebels hung several dozen dead dogs from lampposts with signs condemning China's current leader, Deng Xiaoping, as a traitor to true communism. The Shining Path used this tactic when it began its insurgency in May 1980.

Gunmen net \$8m in Brooklyn heist

NEW YORK (AP) — Robbers sneaked up on an armoured truck company's unarmed security guard as he watched television, tied him up and looted more than \$8 million from the vault, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said Monday.

The guard, who was working alone, got his legs after about 20 minutes and triggered an alarm, which brought police. Officers found the vault doors open and the robbers gone.

It was the city's second-biggest cash theft, and the FBI said it might have been an inside job. The security guard said the robbers approached from behind as he watched television late Sunday in the command room of Hudson armoured car courier service in Brooklyn.

"He felt a gun at the back of his head and a voice ordered him onto the floor," said FBI spokesman Richard DeFilippo.

The guard said he was unable to see the robbers as his wrists and ankles were bound with wire. "But judging from the sounds of voices, he thought there were five or six of them," Mr. DeFilippo said.

The building's elaborate security system, which included video cameras and surveillance at each entryway, was "apparently neutralised" by the bandits, officials said. They did not elaborate.

The FBI said a significant portion of the money was in new \$100 bills, with serial numbers in sequences.

"The FBI would like to hear from anyone who sees new \$100s sequentially numbered," Mr. DeFilippo said.

He said there was no indication the guard was blindfolded, and he did not know whether the guard may have been asleep when the robbers arrived shortly before midnight.

Officers refused to say whether the vault was open when the robbers arrived. But the FBI said it was considering the possibility the heist was an inside job. "Any time security systems are trashed or neutralised, our suspicions very often turn to the possibility of complicity within the company," said James M. Fox, special agent in charge of the FBI's New York office.

From shipping manifests, in-

vestigators determined that the robbers got four bags of cash totalling \$8,268,680.07, Mr. DeFilippo said. He had no details about whom the money belonged to.

The one-storey, windowless building, which has no sign to identify its business or even its address, is in an industrial neighbourhood of warehouses and small factories near the Brooklyn waterfront.

Company officials refused to speak to reporters. The city's biggest cash theft was \$11 million discovered missing on Dec. 12, 1982, after thieves broke into Sentry armoured car. However, authorities later said a large portion of the money had been stolen over time by insiders.

On April 29, 1985, four armed men broke through a wall at a Wells Fargo terminal in Lower Manhattan and drove off with \$7.9 million in an armoured car. Six ski-masked bandits took \$5 million in cash and \$800,000 in gems from the Lufthansa terminal at Kennedy International Airport on Dec. 11, 1978.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother Teresa honoured with Russian award

NEW DELHI (AP) — Mother Teresa, the world's most famous nun, was honoured Monday with a Russian award for her contribution to the protection of children around the world. The 82-year-old Nobel peace laureate received the 1992 Leo Tolstoy International Award at her mission in the eastern city of Calcutta. Press Trust of India news agency reported. The honour — a gold medal and a citation — was handed over to Mother Teresa by Russian Consul General S.S. Gavrilov, the report said. Describing herself unworthy of such an honour, the Roman Catholic nun said her lifelong mission is to put smiles on the faces of destitute children around the world, Press Trust said.

Nine convicts executed in South Korea

SEOUL (AP) — Nine people who had been convicted of murder, rape and other charges were executed Tuesday. The Ministry of Justice said it was the first capital punishment carried out this year. Seven were executed in Seoul and two in the southeastern city of Taegu, all by hanging, it said. Among the executed were Chang Hyo-Sang, 65, convicted of murder and murder attempt, and Kim Young-Ho, 34, murder and rape. The ministry said the executions reduced the number on death row to 50. South Korea does not have a high crime rate, but the government hands out death sentences for "antisocial crimes," such as murder and habitual rape.

Grand jury indicts Alabama governor

MONTGOMERY, Alabama (AP) — Governor Guy Hunt was indicted Monday by a grand jury on charges of taking \$200,000 from his inaugural fund for personal use. He reported to the county jail, saying, "I'm going to fight." The 13-count felony indictment included charges of theft, conspiracy and ethics violations. It said Mr. Hunt conspired with his inaugural fund accountant, Gene McKenzie, and two former aides. The grand jury said it had returned four indictments, but the others were not immediately available. A lawyer for Mr. McKenzie said the accountant also had been indicted, but did not have details of the charges against him. "I'm totally innocent," Mr. Hunt said as he left the Montgomery county jail after the indictment was issued. "I'm going to fight. I'm going to serve out my term." The indictment did not specify what Mr. Hunt allegedly did with the \$200,000. Mr. Hunt has said he had a campaign debt from a losing race for governor in 1978 and mortgaged some property to keep from going bankrupt. Earlier, his press office issued a blistering statement calling the case a political concoction by a Democratic attorney general against Alabama's first Republican governor this century. But the statement later was withdrawn. Mr. Hunt, a Republican, remains in office. Under Alabama law, public officials charged with crimes retain their office until conviction.

Aborigines to claim part of Brisbane

BRISBANE (R) — Aborigines plan to lodge a claim for part of the central business district of Brisbane, an aboriginal spokesman said Tuesday. The city's Bunjalung aboriginal people had a right to part of the capital of Queensland under the historic Mabo high court ruling, spokesman Sam Watson said. In June this year, the Australian high court overruled the notion that Australia was an uninhabited land when white settlers arrived 200 years ago and held that aborigines had "native title" to land. Archaeologists have dated aboriginal remains in Australia back some 45,000 years.

Filipino sentenced to life in controversial murder case

MANILA (Agencies) — A prominent Filipino was sentenced Tuesday to life in prison for killing an American and a Swede in a case that has been criticised as underscoring flaws in the justice system.

Claudio Teehankee, 51, was convicted of killing the son of a U.S. embassy official and the stepdaughter of a Swedish businessman. He also was found guilty of the attempted murder of the son of a Finnish bank official in shootings July 13, 1991, in Manila's swank Dasmariñas village neighbourhood.

Critics claimed Mr. Teehankee, who had been on trial since August 1991, had been given preferential treatment in jail because of connections with police and politicians.

His late father, former Supreme Court Chief Justice Claudio

Teehankee, swore in Corazon Aquino as president in 1986 and later served as Philippine ambassador to the United Nations before his death in New York in November 1989.

In Tuesday's ruling, Judge Job Madayag handed down two life sentences, one of eight to 10 years for attempted murder and a fine of 2.9 million pesos (\$116,000).

Appeal is automatic for life sentences. There is no capital punishment in the Philippines.

In addition to the fines, Mr. Teehankee was ordered to pay three million pesos (\$120,000) in legal fees and a total of 19 million pesos (\$760,000) in damages to the three victims' families.

He was convicted of shooting the three teenagers after accusing them before dawn as they returned from a party.

Iran-contra pardons will haunt Bush in retirement

By Mike Feinsilber
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George Bush said his Iran-contra pardons were a simple act of Christmas compassion, but it is now clear his action will dog his remaining days in office and vex him in retirement.

The pardons changed the atmosphere in a capital that had been getting ready to celebrate a new president's installation.

The drama has not yet played out.

Mr. Bush may be called before grand juries and congressional committees, probably after he leaves office in three weeks. No chief executive, having lost his presidential mantle, could relish that prospect.

At the same time, Mr. Bush is being pushed by Senate Republican leader Bob Dole to remove Lawrence Walsh, the

Iran-contra prosecutor who tongue-lashed the president for issuing the pardons.

Removing Mr. Walsh likely would touch off an uproar akin to the one after Richard Nixon fired Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox, perhaps Mr. Nixon's most painful self-inflicted wound — short of recording his conversations on tapes later used to incriminate him.

If Mr. Bush is called to testify, he is likely would be asked to justify his decision to pardon former Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and five other former government officials. And he probably would be asked to give a public accounting of his own role in the Reagan administration's arms-for-hostages deal with Iran, about which he has said only that he knew little.

Mr. Weinberger, who opposed the sale, was to have gone on trial Jan. 5 on charges of lying to Congress and pro-

secutors about the matter.

The president, quail hunting in Texas this week, has been quiet about all this, but Mr. Walsh has not usually been accessible, the prosecutor opened a television campaign to denounce the pardon as an interference with his own duties. He accused Mr. Bush of "misconduct" and of completing a "cover-up."

Mr. Walsh also said he now would turn his attention to Mr. Bush's own role in the affair and into why he kept quiet until a few weeks ago about the existence of typewritten he dictated at The Time, while he was vice-president. The White House calls the notes unflattering and says it is willing to make them public.

Mr. Walsh's deputy, San Francisco attorney James Brogan, who was to have prosecuted Mr. Weinberger, suggested that Mr. Bush, issuing the pardons, may have acted to protect himself

from having to testify at a Weinberger trial.

Mr. Bush has maintained throughout the investigations that he was "out of the loop" when the Iran deal was under discussion.

Beyond shadowing the president's last days in office, fall-out from the pardons is likely to dominate events in Washington until inauguration day. Political repercussions already are evident.

The Democrats are split. Responding to lobbying from Mr. Weinberger's lawyer, House Speaker Thomas Foley of Washington and Representative Les Aspin of Wisconsin, defence secretary-designate in Bill Clinton's cabinet, quietly let Mr. Bush know that they would not criticise a pardon. When the pardons were issued, Mr. Foley's chief deputy, House Democratic leader Richard Gephardt of Missouri, denounced them.

— The battle over renewing

the independent counsel law will become even more divisive.

The law, a Watergate-spawned reform, expired Dec. 15, but Mr. Walsh remained free to continue business. A filibuster by Republican senators killed a bill to extend the law.

Sen. Carl Levin said hearings by his governmental affairs subcommittee next year into the way the law has worked could provide an "appropriate and likely" forum for questioning Mr. Walsh, Mr. Weinberger — and Mr. Bush. Mr. Levin said the pardon had the effect of shielding Mr. Bush "from a court presentation, examination and cross-examination, under oath."

— Mr. Clinton will find it hard to keep from being drawn into the furor. The president-elect has said the pardons might send a signal "that if you work for the government you're beyond the law."



No laughing ne

HARARE (AP) — Television newscasters were from duty for burlesque laughing during the night an official at state-run said. Taisi Vera and Welch, co-anchors of news, "lost their cool" when Vera read a Christmas eve of a woman gave birth in the bathroom, said a spokesman. A script told of how the fell through the toilet track but survived. Some complaints were received from station officials, the presenters will not a state television for three said the spokesman, on anonymity.

Barmaid bites o musician's tongue

SEOUL (R) — Police detained a barmaid who and swallowed the tongue of a man who kissed her, police officer said. The old woman, identified Kim, bit the tongue of a man who works in the office said. "I was that time. I bit off his my bewilderment as he leaped on me and kissed officer quoted Kim as police. The woman, leniency, said she had only part of the tongue, er said. "We will not charge her as the man want her to be punish said."

Transvestites abreast of new technique

BANGKOK (R) — A transvestites has been tourists after enticing suck their trunks impregnated nipples, po Tuesday. They arrest Bangkok transvestites woman after complaints a cey from a Syrian man. The Syrian was robbed of a Rolex w \$4,000 and 15,000 baht cash, police said. The sites smeared their breasts tranquillisers to put the victims to sleep, a police man said. One was q explaining that the p adopted because "many customers did not drink

View from the at

TOKYO (R) — Spurn female colleague, a Tol hid in the woman's attic days to videotape every her life at home, po Tuesday. The peep equipped with a video and tapes, was caught in space above the woman after she summoned. "The case is now before prosecutors, but I can that he's facing charges breaking and entering into out in the woman's a for three days," a police said. He said the man, 61, is after the woman rejected ances, admitted to enter apartment several times past six months using the key.

Court gets snif

OSLO (R) — A cave, astrophysics student, bare of official taking an exam became a body odour, has been on a Norwegian court to test for the university. The 35-year man, who has been in cave near Oslo live more than 14 years, later the court to overrule the ty's decision to ban taking exams and bar the campus. He also \$470,000 in compensation. Affairs says he is a Buddhist and has cave for meditation. "H case — they said his nuisance to other peo reason for the ters. The man has to state's legal costs of \$45

French police helicopter jail

TOULOUSE, France (R) — escaped prisoner, who rent a helicopter to sta break has been captured shoot-out with French Toulouse. The fugitive nered as he tried to helicopter from a private company, police said, and wounded a gend held two hostages at before police detain Police said the man, carrying pistols, saw guns, a fold-up ladder a masks, apparently p snatch prisoners from nearby Lannemezan, himself had been an i

مكتبة من الأصل